

# Archæologia Cambrensis.

THIRD SERIES, No. VI.—APRIL, 1856.

## LIST OF EARLY BRITISH REMAINS IN WALES.

### No. VII.

#### MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

##### I.—CAMPS, CESTYLL.

*Camp*,—A small fortified post, on the brow of a hill, three quarters of a mile north-east from Llanfyllin.

*Camp*,—On a wooded hill, north of the cairn, one mile west from Llansantffraid.

*Craig y Castell*,—Name of a rocky eminence, one mile north-west-by-west from Pennant Melangell.

*Craig y Castell*,—Name of a rocky eminence, two miles north-west from Llangynog.

*Castell*,—Name of a farm, on an eminence, three miles north-west from Llanfihangel.

*Camp*,—On an eminence, half a mile north-east from Garthbibio.

*Camp*,—On an eminence, above the Vyrnwy, two miles and a half south-by-west from Llanfihangel.

*Camp*,—In the grounds of Maes-llaw-ystym, one mile and a half west from Garthbibio, on the south side of the Banw.

*Camp*,—On an eminence, one mile and a half east from Llanerfyl, on the north side of the road from Welshpool to Can-office.

*Gaer*,—Camp, one mile west-by-north from Llanwyddelan.

*Camp*,—Half a mile south of Llanwyddelan.

*Camp*,—Called Moel y Ddolwen, on the mountain, two miles and a half west-south-west from Llangadfan.

*Camp*,—Circular fortified post, on the mountain called Moel Eiddaw, two miles and a quarter east-by-south from Cemmaes.

*Castell bach*,—Name of a farm, on the east side of the valley of the Dyfi, two miles south from Mallwyd.

*Camp*,—Called Fron goch, three quarters of a mile south-west from Darowen.

*Castell*,—Name of a farm, one mile and a quarter north-east from Darowen.

*Dinas*,—Earthworks, on the summit of a mountain so called, above the road from Llanidloes to Machynlleth, four miles north-west from Llanidloes.

*Pen y Gaer*,—Fortified summit of a hill, three miles north-west-by-west from Llanidloes.

*Pen y Castell*,—Fortified post, two miles north-by-west from Llanidloes.

*Castell*,—Name of a farm, on the south side of the Severn, two miles and a half west-by-south from Llanidloes.

*Camp*,—On Craig Cordde, one mile west of Caersws.

*Moat*,—Fortified post (square), so called, two miles and a half south-west from Llanidloes.

*Camp*,—Near Cwm y gath, one mile west of Llandinam.

*Castell greido*,—Farm-house, so called, four miles south-west-by-west from Llanidloes.

*Gaerau*,—Small eminence, so called, on Esgair yr ychain, three miles and a quarter west-south-west from Llangurig.

*Castell*,—Fortified point of a hill, two miles and three quarters west-north-west from Tregynon.

*Gwynfynydd*,—Circular inclosure, intended probably for defence, one mile east from Llanwnnog.

*Cefn Carnedd*,—Large fortified post, on the summit of a hill, one mile and a quarter south-west from Caersws,

overlooking the junction of the Severn, Tarannon and Carno rivers.

*Y Gaer Vychan*,—Fortified post, on the ridge of hills above the Severn, on the west side, three quarters of a mile south-west from Llandinam.

*Moat*,—Fortified station, on the western slope of Cefn Nith, one mile north-east from Caersws.

*Pen y Castell*,—Fortified post, on the hills above Llyn Ebyr, two miles and three quarters north-east from Llanidloes.

*Y-foel*,—Fortified post, on the mountain above Glyn gofeinion, four miles east-by-south from Llanidloes.

*Castell y dail*,—Name of a farm one mile south-west from Newtown.

*Camp*,—Large circular camp, on the hill, one mile north-east from Kerry.

*Camp*,—Called the Moat, a quarter of a mile south from Kerry.

*Pen y Castell*,—Fortified post, two miles and a quarter south-south-west from Kerry.

[*Kerry, or Caerau*,—The name of this place suggests the idea of an ancient fortified post having existed here; but, if so, it was probably Roman; and the existence of two British stations near it, added to its situation on what was probably a line of communication from Caersws eastward, strengthens the supposition.]

*Camp*,—A small camp, one mile and three quarters south-east from Kerry.

*Caer Din*,—Oblong camp, so called, on the Kerry ridge, two miles and a half south from Churchstoke, on the east side of Offa's Dyke.

*Camp*,—Near Pentre Hall, one mile and three quarters south-by-east from Churchstoke.

*Bishop's Moat*,—Fortified post, with a mound, on the Kerry ridge, where a turnpike road crosses it, two miles and a quarter west-north-west from Bishop's Castle, on the boundary of Montgomery and Salop.

*Simond's Castle*,—Probably a mediæval fortified post, one mile south-east from Churchstoke.

*Castle Hill*,—Fortified post, on the Corndon range, above Hyssington, two miles and three quarters east-north-east from Churchstoke.

*Castle Ring*,—Fortified post, on the Corndon range, one mile north-east from Churchstoke.

*Hên Domen*,—Ancient fortified inclosure, so called, one mile north-north-west from Montgomery.

*Fridd Faldwin*,—Large camp, on the hill, immediately above Montgomery Castle, on the west.

*Camp*,—Small square camp, one mile and a half south-south-west from Montgomery, near Llandyssul.

*Camp*,—On the summit of a hill, above Cwm berllan, two miles south-west-by-south from Montgomery.

*Cloddiau*,—Name of a farm, three quarters of a mile south-by-west from Llandyssul, where possibly a small fortified post may be found.

*Moat*,—Fortified post, on the Severn, three quarters of a mile north-east from Newtown.

*Camp*,—At Brynderwen, on the Severn, four miles north-east from Newtown.

*Castell Dolforwyn*,—Ancient British post, afterwards a mediæval castle, on the hill above the valley of the Severn, on the west side, three miles north-east-by-north from Newtown.

*Cloddiau*,—Name of a farm, two miles and a quarter north-north-east from Newtown.

*Camp*,—At Ucheldre, one mile and a half north-east from Bettws Cedewen.

*Camp*,—On the hill, one mile east-north-east from Bettws Cedewen.

*Moat*,—Fortified post, with ditch, so called, by the east side of Offa's Dyke, three quarters of a mile east-north-east from Forden.

*Camp*,—On the hill, two miles and a quarter north-west from Berriew.

*Moat*,—Small fortified post, at Manafon, on the east side of the river.

*Castell Caer Einion*,—The name of this place indicates an early fortified post, where a raised mound occupies the north-east end of the church-yard.



*Camp*,—One mile and a half south from Llanfair.

*Camps*,—Two close together, above the Banw, on the east side, two miles north-north-west from Castell Caer Einion, near the bridge on the Welshpool and Llanfair road.

*Camp*,—On the hill, on the west side of the Banw, one mile and a quarter north-east from Llanfair.

*Pen y Castell*,—Circular fortified eminence, three quarters of a mile north-west from Llangynyw.

*Camp*,—On the hill, near a farm called Cefn du, two miles and a half north-north-west from Castell Caer Einion.

*Camps*,—On an eminence, one mile east-north-east from Castell Caer Einion, and three miles west-south-west from Welshpool.

*Camp*,—At Fridd Mathyrafal, two miles and a half south-west from Meifod.

*Camp*,—At Penllys, three miles west-north-west from Meifod.

*Camp*,—On the hill, half a mile south-west from Meifod.

*Camp*,—At Ystym Colwyn, three miles north-east from Meifod.

*Gaer*,—Fortified post, above Tref-nannau, two miles and three quarters north-west from Guilsfield.

*Gaer fawr*,—Strongly fortified station, on the hill, one mile north-north-east from Guilsfield.

*Castell Coch, or Powys Castle*,—At Welshpool. This was probably the site of an ancient British fortress, before it was castellated in mediæval times.

*Camp*,—Small camp, in the park, one mile south-west from Powys Castle.

*Caer Digol, or Beacon Ring*,—Large circular inclosure, on the Long Mynd, two miles and a half south-south-east from Welshpool.

*Camp*,—At Pen y gaer, one mile and three quarters west from Welshpool.

*Camp*,—Near Maesgwyn, four miles north-west from Welshpool.

*Moat*,—At Guilsfield, in the meadow, a small square camp, near the stream, probably Roman.

*Moat*,—Square inclosure, at the foot of the Breidden Hill, on the east bank of the Severn, three miles north-north-east from Buttington, guarding a ford, perhaps Roman.

*Cefn y Castell*,—Ancient fortified post, on the southern ridge of the Breidden.

*Ancient fortified post*,—On the northern ridge of the Breidden.

*Traces of a fortified post*,—Near Buttington, on the slope of the Long Mynd.

*Bryn Mawr*,—Fortified summit of a hill, south of the Vyrnwy, one mile and a quarter west-by-south from Llandyssilio.

## II.—TUMULI OR CARNEDDAU, AND BEDDAU.

*Tomen*,—One mile and a quarter west-by-north from Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant.

*Waun tri beddau*,—Name of a farm, one mile east of Tregynon.

*Tomen*,—Mound, on the hills, two miles and a half south from Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant.

*Tomen*,—Mound, on the hills, also the turnpike road on the east side, two miles north-west from Llanfyllin.

*Mount*,—On the south side of the Cain, a quarter of a mile south-west from Llanfechan.

*Tumulus, or Beacon Station*,—On the ridge of the Berwyn mountains, above Milltir Gerrig, where the road from Llangynog to Llandderfel crosses the ridge.

*Tumulus*,—On Moel Sych, where the three counties of Montgomery, Denbigh and Merioneth meet.

*Tumulus, or Small Beacon Station*,—At Pen y Coneyn, on the ridge of the Berwyn, five miles west-north-west from Pennant Melangell.

*Carreg y big, Beacon Station*,—On the mountain ridge, four miles west-by-south from Llanwddyn.

*Carneddwen*,—Name of a farm, in the valley of the Vyrnwy, two miles and a half north-west from Llanwddyn, indicating an ancient mound.

*Carn*,—On the mountains, two miles north from Llanwddyn, near a line of ancient road.

*Carn*,—On the mountains, two miles south-by-east from Llanwddyn.

*Croes forwyn*,—Small mound, close to the above; a cross may have been erected here in early times.

*Lluestwen*,—Small tumulus, on the mountain called Cefn Tre Yspytty, above Fridd St. Ioan, two miles west-south-west from Llanwddyn.

*Pen y Gardden*,—Mount, two miles and a quarter south from Llanfihangel.

*Gardden*,—Mound, one mile south from Llanerfyl.

*Carn*,—On the mountain, two miles south-west from Llangadfan.

*Tumulus*,—On the mountain, four miles north from Carno, near a probable line of Roman road leading from Carno to Llanwddyn.

*Tumulus*,—On the south side of the mountain, two miles and a quarter south-by-west from Llanllugan.

*Tumulus, or Mound*,—At the junction of the Twymyn and Ial rivers, two miles north from Llanbrynmair.

*Beacon Station*,—On the mountain above Caeau gleision, four miles north-north-east from Llanbrynmair.

*Beacon Station*,—On the mountain, above the Afon Gam, four miles north-east from Llanbrynmair.

*Rhos-y-beddau*,—Ancient ridges, on Coed-mawr farm, two miles north of Llanidloes.

*Carnedd-gerrig*,—Large beacon station, on Mynydd Cemmaes, two miles and a quarter east-by-south from Cemmaes.

*Carneddwen*,—Name of mountain-summit, above Llyn Coch-hwyad, four miles east-by-south from Mallwyd.

*Carnau*,—Four carns, on Pen Daren, five miles south-by-east from Machynlleth.

*Carn*,—On Banc Llechwedd Mawr, two miles and a half north-north-west from the summit of Plynlymon.

*Carn Wylva*,—Three miles north-by-east from the summit of Plynlymon.

*Carn Tarenig*,—On the boundary line of Montgomery and Cardigan, one mile south-south-east from the summit of Plynlymon, and one mile south-by-west from the source of the Wye.

*Carn bach Bugeilyn*,—On the summit of the mountain, half a mile east-by-north from the source of the Severn.

*Carn Biga*,—On the summit of the mountain, one mile south-south-east from the source of the Severn.

*Carnedd*,—On the hill, one mile and a quarter south-south-east from Llanbrynmair.

*Carreg hir*,—On the mountain called Esgair drain llwyn, three miles south-west from Carno.

*Twr gwyn mawr*,—On the mountains, three miles south-west-by-west from Carno.

*Twr gwyn bach*,—One mile south of Twr gwyn mawr.

*Tumuli*,—Two, on the mountain called Waun ddeiliog, five miles south-west from Llanbrynmair.

*Tumuli*,—Two, on the mountain, above Dolgwyddyl, five miles south from Llanbrynmair.

*Tumulus*,—On the mountain, one-third of a mile south from the above.

*Clap-Mawr*,—Beacon station, so called, on the mountains above Dolgwyddyl, six miles and a half south from Llanbrynmair.

*Tumulus*,—Half a mile south-south-west from the above.

*Beacon Stations*,—Two, on the boundary line of Montgomery and Cardigan, one mile and a half south-south-west from the source of the Severn; and eight miles and three quarters west-north-west from Llanidloes.

*Carn*,—On the mountain, above Rhyd yr onnen, five miles north-west-by-west from Llanidloes.

*Tomen, called Domen-giw*,—One mile and a quarter north from Llangurig.

*Carn bwch y cloddiau*,—On Esgair ychain, three miles and a half west-south-west from Llangurig.

*Two Tumuli*,—About fifty yards distant, on Esgair Clochfan, three miles and a half south-west from Llangurig.

*Carn-y-groes*,—Beacon station, three miles south-south-west from Llangurig.

*Carn*,—On the boundary between Montgomery and Radnor, called Crugyn terfyn, two miles and three quarters south-south-east from Capel Banhaglog.

*Carnau*,—Two, called Pegwns mawr, and Pegwns fach, on the mountain called Rhydd Hywell, two miles and a half east from Capel Banhaglog.

*Carno*,—The name of this place suggests the idea of some large carnedd having formerly existed here. The ancient work Cae 'r noddfa, is considered Roman, and therefore does not enter into this enumeration.

*Pen y groes uchaf, Pen y groes isaf*,—Two carnau, or tumuli, on Pen y clogiau, four and five miles north-east from Carno.

*Mound*,—At Aberhavesp, in the meadow opposite Pen Strowed; probably defending a ford over the Severn. (It is stated that the Rector has proved this to be a natural formation, though marked on the Ordnance map as artificial.)

*Carnedd*,—A farm, one mile and three quarters north-west from Tregynon.

*Carnedd*,—A farm, in the meadows on the Tarannon, at the foot of Cefn Carnedd, one mile south-west from Caersws.

*Domen-ddu*,—Large beacon station, on the mountain above Glyn gofeinion, four miles east-south-east from Llanidloes.

*Carnau*,—Two, on the hill above Glog, and a turnpike-gate on the road from Newtown to Rhayader, four miles and a half south-east from Llandinam.

*Tumpau*,—Mounds, so called, three quarters of a mile south-east from Mochtre.

*Tumulus*,—In a field, between the turnpike-road and the Severn, one mile north-east from Newtown.

*Tumuli*,—Six, on the hills near the Kerry ridge, three miles and a half south from Newtown. They stand near an ancient line of road, and an intrenchment.

*Tumulus*,—At Crugynny, at the south-west extremity of the Kerry ridge, four miles and a half south from Newtown.

*Tumuli*,—Two, on the south-west end of the Kerry ridge, near an ancient intrenchment, four miles and a half south-by-east from Newtown.

*Tumulus*,—On the hill, above Caelenau uchaf, three miles and a quarter south-by-east from Newtown.

*Tumulus*,—On the Kerry ridge, where the ancient road from Kerry, leading to Castell Bryn Amlwg, in Clun Forest, crosses the mountain, two miles and a half south-south-east from Kerry.

*Tomen Madoc*,—*Tumulus*, three quarters of a mile north from Kerry.

*Tumuli*,—Two, a quarter of a mile east-north-east from Kerry.

*Tomen*,—Large mound, on the hills rising towards the Kerry ridge, three miles and three quarters east from Kerry.

*Crugyn*,—*Tumulus*, on the boundary between Montgomery and Salop, one mile and three quarters north-west from Bishop's Castle.

*Tumuli*,—Six, on the Corndon Hill, two miles and three quarters north-east from Churchstoke.

*Tumulus*,—Near the point of the Corndon Hill, called Whetstone, two miles and three quarters north-north-east from Churchstoke.

*Mound*,—On the east bank of the Severn, guarding a ford, one mile west from Fordin.

*Mount*,—A mound with a ditch, so called, guarding a pass over a marsh of the Severn, one mile north-north-east from Berriew.

*Mount*,—At Welshpool, guarding a pass over the marshes of the Severn.

*Tumulus*,—On the ridge of the Long Mynd, and on the east side of the line of ancient road, near Caer Digol, three miles east-south-east from Welshpool.

*Tumulus*,—Ditto, ditto, three miles east-by-south from Welshpool.

*Tumuli*,—Two, of which one is a beacon station, called the Knaps, on the Long Mynd, two miles and a half east-by-north from Buttington.

*Tomen*,—Near the camp of Bryn Mawr, one mile and three quarters west-by-south from Llandyssilio.

H. L. J.

(To be continued.)

## CARNEDD AND CROMLECH AT CAPEL GARMON, NEAR LLANRWST.

THIS monument stands on a farm called Ty 'n y coed, the property of C. W. G. Wynne, Esq., of Voelas. The inhabitants called it *Yr Ogof*, (the cave,) and the field wherein it stands Cae'r Ogof (Cave-field). The Dolbenmaen cromlech stands in a field called Bryn yr Ogof (Cave-hill). It is by no means rare for certain spots to have ogof or seler attached to their names, where no cave or cellar now exists; the cromlech or cistvaen, with the incumbent carnedd, having been removed. Two miles from the Capel Garmon cromlech is a place called Carreg yr Ogof, where no cave now exists. This circumstance affords a proof of the *sepulchral* character of most of our cromlechs, and of their having been originally inhumed in a mound of earth or stone. I apprehend that the cells at Cerrigydrudion, (stones of the daring, or heroes,) in this neighbourhood, were of the same nature.

The heap has been about half reduced in size by using the stones for walls and other purposes. Level with its present surface is the denuded roof of one portion of the sepulchre, a slab of marvellous size and symmetry. Its form is a rhomboid, or nearly lozenge-shaped; its length is 14 feet 7 inches, its breadth 12 feet 2 inches, exceeding, I believe, in superficial measure, any cromlech in Wales; its thickness is about 15 inches. All the other cover stones have been broken, and, when I first visited the place, the chamber underneath this stone alone appeared. When the monument was violated, the other chambers had been filled up with stones and rubbish.

The remaining chamber had been converted into a stable, provided with a framed door, window, and stone manger. It measured 11 feet by  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; the floor had been paved, and the spaces between the supporters filled up. An entrance had been cleared through the side of the carnedd.

On the under side of the great cover stone is a singular cavity, about two feet across, closely resembling an inverted saucer, with a perforation in the middle. This was



produced by some one who was barbarous enough to attempt the destruction of the noble slab by blasting. An abortive attempt was also made upon another part of it.

This sepulchre was carefully opened November 9, 1853, in the presence of W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., M.P., F.A.S., and a party from Voelas. The structure within resembles a **T**, and consists of three chambers in a line east and west, perpendicular to which is an entrance-passage opening into the central chamber. This chamber is oval, and is subdivided into three compartments by two upright flagstones. At each end it opens into two other chambers; one of which is circular, and the other—which has its cromlech-roof entire—seems to have been also circular, before the displacement of some of its supporters to form a stable, for which a new entrance was excavated through the west side of the carnedd. The cells were accommodated to the natural inclination of the ground, increasing in height according to the distance from the entrance, which was upon the upper side of the slope. The entrance consists of two upright stones, two feet high, and the same distance apart. After entering, there is a descent of about a foot, by three steps, and then the passage expands about the middle, and contracts again to two feet on entering the middle chamber. It gradually increases in height, until at its inner end it is 4 feet 6 inches high. This passage, as well as the cells, was covered. The interstices between the upright stones were, here and elsewhere, filled up with stonework of remarkable neatness, in courses of uniformly thin stones. If the covers of the passage rested upon the present uprights, as appears to have been the case, the entrance was only two feet square, and just large enough to admit a man on hands and knees. The cromlech was covered with carnedd stones, within living memory; but when, and by whom, the cells were violated, cannot be ascertained.

There appears a striking resemblance between the above sepulchre and that inclosed in a tumulus on the Cotswold Hills, described by Mr. Freeman, at Ruthin, in



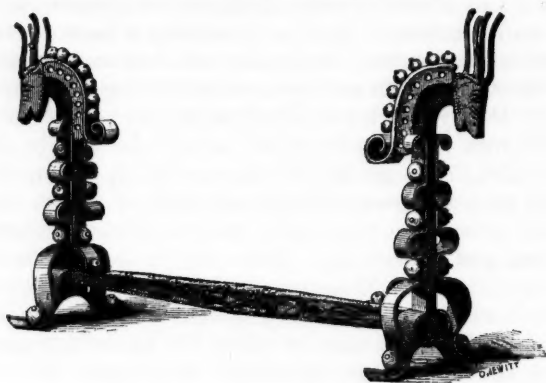
September, 1854;—a long gallery with two chambers at each side, essentially cromlechs—the walls of large stones, with the interstices worked up with very small ones—the entrance by a low aperture, leading to a low chamber branching off to others. An ornament, described as a *cadwyn*, chain, torques, was discovered near this spot some years back; a relic, perhaps, of the engagement “Gwaith Maesygarneidd,” in which the warrior-bard Gwalchmai took part at this place in the twelfth century. It is obvious that this carnedd was not raised for the entombment of any of the warriors slain in that action; burials in cistveini and carneddau having ceased long before.

It is gratifying to add that Mr. Wynne, of Voelas, has built a wall for the protection of the above interesting monument.

There are several objects of interest to the antiquary in the neighbourhood. In close proximity is Carreg y lleon, (Rock of the legion,) suggestive of Roman domination. A mile to the south is Dinas, commanding the junction of the Dolwyddelan and Penmachno vales. At the foot of this rock was discovered an ancient firedog, in 1852. Two miles to the north-east is Garneddwen, which, within living memory, was an immense heap of stones, under which, about the year 1803, several cistvaens were discovered and broken up. Near this is the fragment of a maenhir, called Maenpebyll, (stone of tents or tabernacles,) which was wantonly blasted and thrown down in 1850. To these may be added the Trebeddau graves, where the Brochmael inscription was found, Gaerfawr, and Yr hen foel, (which gave its name to the mansion and parish of Voelas,) with the inscribed pillar which has baffled palæologists from Camden down to this day.

The relic of which a representation is appended was discovered in May, 1852, by a man cutting a ditch through a turbary on the farm of Carreg Goedog, near Capel Garmon, Llanrwst. It lay on the clay subsoil, flat upon its side, with a large stone at each end, and at a considerable depth. The spot is quite unfrequented, nor

are there any remains of ancient buildings. It is all of iron, and the execution indicates considerable taste and skill. It is in some parts much corroded, and exposure to the air decomposed the metal considerably. The knobs on the crest and sides are, apparently, of cast iron, with rivets through. The lower row of round marks on the crest are perforations. Should a remote age be suggested, corroborative memorials are not wanting; such as the dinas, or fort, close to which it was found; Carreg y lleon, rock of the legion; and the neighbouring Roman road through Dolwyddelan to Conovium, —not to mention the cromlech. Those who would maintain a mediæval, or still more recent, date, might find a warrant for that supposition, in the circumstance of this neighbourhood having been the scene of many warlike conflicts, incursions and depredations.



Firedog found near Capel Garmon.

The characteristics set forth in the following account of a Roman firedog, tally so well with those of the article above mentioned, that there appears good reason to believe it to be of Roman workmanship:—

“Mr. Roach Smith has given an engraving, in the second volume of his *Collectanea*, of a pair of andirons, or firedogs, of iron, discovered in 1839, in a sepulchral vault near Colchester.

Each consisted of a frame, the two upright sides of which were crowned with heads of oxen, with a brass knob on the tip of each horn. Two very similar implements, also of iron, had been found near Shefford, in Bedfordshire, in 1832, and an engraving of them has also been given by Mr. Roach Smith. Articles of the same character, but smaller, have been found at Pompeii, and in a tomb at Pæstum. The Italian antiquaries seem to consider that they were used, not like the mediæval firedogs, to support the fuel, but that they were cooking utensils, intended to support iron bars to serve as a gridiron. The two firedogs found near Shefford terminated in stags' heads. Even in these homely utensils, the imitations of nature are of the boldest order; the graceful turn of the stag's neck, and the outline of the head, which form the ornamental part of each end, are singularly effective."—*Celt, Roman and Saxon*, by Thomas Wright, Esq., p. 335.

On the other hand, one of our members, Mr. O. Jewitt, observes as follows:—

"I would suggest that this instrument is intended to hold the spits for roasting fowls, game, or other small animals, such as we see in mediæval MSS. The loops on the side are evidently intended for that purpose, and it is probable that the horns of the two heads are intended for supporting a larger one. We see in the Bayeux Tapestry, and in MSS. of the fourteenth century, &c., these spits continually used, and that boys were employed to turn them. In the Bayeux Tapestry the small animals are always brought up to the table *on the spits*."

J. EVANS.

January, 1856.

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CAER-CARREG-Y-FRAN, LLANRUG,  
CAERNARVONSHIRE.

No. II.

SINCE the appearance of the paper by Mr. Babington on this remarkable British fortified post, I have taken an opportunity of revisiting the spot, of surveying it, and of reducing the plan to a scale, as shown in the annexed engraving,—a work of no small discomfort during the severe frost which shortly preceded last Christmas Day. My first acquaintance with this place was in 1854, when I had gone over it, accompanied by Mr. Foster. Our impression of its archæological value was, at that time, much heightened by the circumstance that we fancied we had observed one or two *cyttiau*, in the circuit of its walls, roofed or vaulted over; and my own impression remains unaltered. But, as Mr. Babington spoke of recent walling operations, and of injuries done to the circuit of wall, it became an object of importance to go and ascertain the amount of the damage done to it by ignorant and careless hands. Unfortunately, this damage was found to be only too real; much of the walling had been removed for modern fences since my first visit, and the covered *cyttiau* had been demolished! However, the circuit of the wall can still be traced with the greatest certainty; a few portions remain well defined, as Mr. Babington had observed them; and the foundations of other parts are to be observed so perfectly that they become objects of no small archæological interest. It is very greatly to be desired that members of our Association, living in Caernarvonshire, would take the trouble of pointing out to whoever may be the possessor of the soil that, by allowing such a monument to be injured, he is inflicting a positive damage on his own property. If ever such a piece of ground came to be sold, it would realize a higher price in the market if the Gaer were standing on it uninjured. The quay at Caernarvon would fetch some hundreds of pounds, if the castle on it were

demolished, but if the castle be allowed to stand, it is worth as many *thousands*! And so with Caer-carreg-y-fran, and all other similar monuments of national history. They have a *national* value. People on the spot may not value them, because they do not understand them; the Arabs do not think much of the pyramids, nor the Bedouins of the mounds of Nineveh; but people at a distance *do* understand them, and *do* value them, and, *because they exist*, come from afar, and spend much money in their research! As a mere pecuniary matter, it is the most absurd thing to allow any old monument to be destroyed; it is a far better speculation to keep it, and take care of it, and show it off if you will, rather than destroy it! Our country gentlemen, in Fielding's days, used to put decent periwigs and coats on the family portraits of their ancestors; but now a wise generation leaves the Knellers, and Lelys, and Vandykes untouched; *they cannot afford* to injure them; the pictures have at length come to be recognized as artistically valuable, and they sell well. Caer-carreg-y-fran was worth more in 1854 than it now is in 1856. *Sed hæc hactenus!*

It will be perceived by the plan that the fortified wall follows the contour of the little eminence on which it is formed, being about 420 feet by 280 feet in round numbers. The site is rather curiously chosen, for it does not command the pass at the exit of the lake of Dolbadarn, and there are several eminences close by it which modern engineers would prefer for a defensible post, or for one of observation. The walls were unusually thin,—not more than nine feet thick at the base, and probably not more than as many feet high. It does not seem to have been more than a hasty work, and in its construction affords a proof of its having been formed long before the other neighbouring post of Dinas Dinorddwig: there is much more military skill displayed in the latter than in the former. At a spot indicated in the plan, the foundation of the wall is *now* laid quite bare, showing that the stones were placed with perfect regularity,—large blocks side by side on either face, smaller stones within; and,

from the care thus shown, I am induced to infer that the wall was raised with a smooth facing, both inside and outside, not being a mere mound, or congeries of stones, as might otherwise have been supposed. The facing, as Mr. Babington remarks, still remains, though now imperfect, in two localities.

In the circuit of the walls, however, occur evident traces of six, or perhaps more, *cyttiau*,—the exact prototypes of our modern “rifle-pits;” and within the inclosure three circular habitations, or “officers’ quarters,” may be plainly seen. In each of the former a couple of men might stand and discharge their arrows or their slings,—the *Minié* rifles of early days; in the latter the chiefs could sleep around their fires, or carouse on *metheglin*, or meditate on a prolonged defence of this ancient *Malakhoff*.

A small spring of water trickles out from a rock near the single entrance on the south-west; and at the north-east side of the fortification the rock is so high and steep as to require little aid from the hand of man to render it exceedingly difficult of access.

The chief demolitions by modern Vandals have been made along the western and northern fronts,—partly along the southern, too; but, in fact, the whole of the *Gaer* has been shamefully and *needlessly* maltreated. Antiquaries should hasten to visit it before it is too late; and a delightful walk of four miles from Caernarvon, on the Llanberis road, will take them, by Llanrug Common and School, straight up to this ancient British fortress, a quarter of a mile above the little village of Cwm y Glo.

H. L. J.

## ON THE NAMES OF CROMLECHAU.

In the year 1849 an animated controversy, upon the design and original character of the cromlech, arose out of the Archæological Meeting held at Cardiff; and in that controversy the Archdeacon of Cardigan, and Dr. Todd, of Trinity College, Dublin, took the leading parts.

In the course of the correspondence, Dr. Todd expressed a desire to know what these structures were called by the country people; and it occurred to me that a paper on the Names of Cromlechau might tend to keep up the interest of the subject. I have therefore thrown together a few remarks upon the various names by which these stones are popularly called.

The earliest and simplest form of these names is LLECH; but as there is a stone of some celebrity named by the bard Aneurin, under the designation of "carreg," I will speak of that first. The bard, speaking of the conduct of a certain warrior at the battle of Cattraeth, says:—

"Noc ac escyc carreg vur vawr y cyhadfan  
Nid mwy cysgogit Wit mab Peithan."

Of these lines, the following is a translation:—

Wid, the son of Peithan, flinched no more  
Than the great stone of the battle-field.

I am of opinion that our battle of Cattraeth occurred in 603, at Catterick, in Yorkshire, and that it was the battle of Digston, Dægsastan, or Egesanstane, of Bede and the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, which evidently derives its name from some remarkable stone; for

Dægsastan, means the stone of the day (of victory, probably);

Egesanstane, is the stone of slaughter; and

Siggeston, the name of a place in the neighbourhood of Catterick, is the stone of victory.

Now, supposing this view to be correct, there must have been something remarkable about that stone; but



whether it was a cromlech cannot be ascertained; and accordingly I only throw this out as a suggestion.

There is more reason to assume that the cromlech was sometimes, and at an early period, called *llech*. In the tale called "The Dream of Rhonabwy," one of the characters states that he went to the *llech las*, in North Britain, to do penance; and from the occurrence of the same word in the sense of a cromlech, I conclude that *llech las* was one of that class. Again, in the *Mabinogi* of Peredur ab Evrawc, we read that a lady told the hero,—

"Go thou forward unto yonder mountain, and there thou wilt find a grove, and in the grove there is a *cromlech*, do thou there challenge a man three times to fight, and thou shalt have my friendship. So Peredur proceeded onward, and came to the side of the grove, and challenged any man to fight. And a black man arose from beneath the *cromlech*, mounted upon a bony horse, and both he and his horse were clad in huge rusty armour."—p. 368.

The word in the original, here translated *cromlech*, is *llech*; but that this *llech* was a cromlech does not admit of doubt.

We also read in the Triads of another *llech*, which appears to have been a stone of this class, where Arthur is said to have been three nights in a concealed prison under *Llech Echemaint*; and, therefore, without attaching any importance to the legends here alluded to, we may safely conclude that, at the time when these tales and Triads were written, the structures which form the subject of this inquiry were commonly called *llechau*. The date of these compositions cannot be ascertained with any exactness; but if we place them in the fifteenth century we cannot be very far wrong.<sup>1</sup> The name *llech* is simply descriptive of the covering stone.

<sup>1</sup> It is a corroboration of the idea that many Triads are founded upon the romances, that while the three imprisonments of Arthur are only known in Welsh literature by allusion, the stories alluded to are to be found in English and French romances. One of these imprisonments is related in Malory's *Morte de Arthur*, chap. lxvi. Part II.



Next in antiquity, so far as we can ascertain it, is the common name, *cromlech*. The word, to the best of my recollection, does not occur in the writings of the bards. However, I should not like to speak positively of any but the bards of the sixth century. It does not occur in the Welsh Laws, nor yet in the Triads; and no instances of its occurrence have yet been noted in our chronicles and tales, or in any of our oldest MSS. It does not occur in Davies' *Dictionary*, though the word was certainly in use in his day. However, one of the first instances of its occurrence is in the *History of Pembrokeshire*, of old George Owen, which was written subsequent to 1588, and possibly about 1600; and the passage in which it is to be found is copied at p. 560 of Fenton's *Pembrokeshire*, where he says that the stone at *Pentre Evan* was called "MAEN Y GROMLECH."

This fact is interesting as an illustration of the sense in which the word was used in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and by the contemporaries of Bishop Morgan, whose translation of the Bible came out in 1588; and the only conclusion deducible from his use of the term *cromlechydd y creigiau* is, that he used the word in the popular sense which it had in his day, and which is satisfactorily established, upon the authority of George Owen, to have been precisely that which we now attach to the word. Dr. Todd was apparently mistaken when he supposed Bishop Morgan to have meant clefts in the rocks.

We next find the word used by the Rev. John Griffiths, of Llan Ddyfnant, in a letter to the celebrated antiquary, Robert Vaughan, of Hengwrt, who died in 1667. In that letter, quoted by Llwyd, and dated, suppose we say 1650, the writer states that these structures were "called by an apposite name, *cromlechau*." Then we find it used by Llwyd, half a century later, in his additions to Gibson's *Camden*; and in 1723 it appears in Rowlands' *Mona Antiqua*. Dr. Todd was for this reason again mistaken, when he supposed Rowlands to have been the first to use this word in the sense we now give to it.

The word is common throughout all parts of Wales, though more frequent in North Wales than in the South, and appears to be a compound regularly formed from the word *llech*, a slab, or flat stone, and the feminine form of the adjective *cwm*, or crooked. Hence *cromlech* means a crooked, bent or inclined slab, or flat stone. The name however is simply descriptive; and whether it be much older than the time of Bishop Morgan, or a compound formed some three centuries ago, throws no light upon the primitive use of the structures so called. The theory advanced by the Rev. Mr. James, (Iago Emlyn,) at Cardiff, that *crom* was the name of an Irish god, appears to me untenable; and consequently this name in no way assists us to determine the vexed question, whether these structures are altars or graves; but, in passing, I may remark that the existence of any doubt upon the subject is at variance with the spirit of the age in which we live. Facts alone can determine the question; and those facts can only be obtained by excavation, in unfrequented localities.

George Owen was of opinion that the cromlech was a sepulchral monument, as were Llwyd, and the Rev. John Griffiths, *supra cit.*, and therefore these elder antiquaries held the same view as Dr. Petrie and Dr. Todd; but the general opinion, up to a recent period, was in favour of the altar theory. George Owen also thought the name should be *grymlech*, or stone of strength; and the Rev. John Jones, of Llanllyfni, suggested *awgrym-lech*; but both suggestions appear to me untenable.

A third name for these structures is *Croes lechau*, or cross-stones. This occurs in the neighbourhood of Talgarth, and is purely descriptive. There is another Croesllechau in Monmouthshire.

Arthur's Stone, in Gower, or *Maen Ketti*,<sup>2</sup> Arthur's

<sup>2</sup> It may be interesting to note, that this is one of several local names derived from an Irish saint, named Cetti, or Ketti; the others being Kilgetty, near Tenby, and Sketty, near Swansea. Similar names occur in Ireland; and the Drum-Keat of our day, appears in *Adamnan* as *Dorsum Cetti*. There are many instances in South Wales of the occurrence of the Erse or Gaelic *Kil*, a church, the

Stone, between Hay and Hereford, and Arthur's Table, in Caermarthenshire, are three names of cromlechau. They happen to be in the line of country traversed by King Arthur and his knights, in the celebrated hunt of the Twrch Trwyth. This boar, Trwyth, according to the legend, had formerly been a British prince, but he was transformed into a boar as a punishment for his sins. And Lady Charlotte Guest, in an interesting note to "Killwch and Olwen," suggests that these *cromlechau* received their names from that legendary hunt, which extended from Porth Cleis and Milford, past the Preseleu mountains, thence to Loughor, up the vale of Towy, and down the vale of Wye, to its junction with the Severn, where the Twrch entered the water, crossed over, and went to Cornwall. She appears to be quite correct in that suggestion.

We have another group of names in—

*Llech yr ast*, Cardiganshire; the stone of the bitch.

*Carnedd y viliast*, Denbighshire; the carnedd of the greyhound bitch.

*Llech y vilast*, Glamorganshire; the stone of the greyhound bitch.

*Gwâl y vilast*, Caermarthenshire, and *Gwâl y vilast*, Monmouthshire; the kennel of the greyhound bitch.

*Llech y vleiddast* (I forget where); the stone of the wolf bitch.

These are all clearly legendary, and throw no light upon the subject under consideration.

It must be evident, at the first glance, that these names, like those of the Arthurian group, admit of a collective explanation; but what the true significance of the names really is, appears to be as yet undetermined. Iolo Morganwg's idea on the subject, having forgotten the bardic fiction about "Da yw'r maen gydar ef engyl," was this:—

equivalent of the Cymric *Llan*, in the names of churches. Kilgerran (Pembroke), Kilkennyn (Cardigan), Kiltrheiddyn, Kilbebyll, Kilsanos, near Merthyr, are instances of this kind, and proofs of the Gaelic occupation of the districts in which they occur.

"In all probability the first British Christians, by way of showing their detestation, wherever they met with druidical or heathenish places of worship, converted them into dog or bitch kennels."—Malkin's *South Wales*, i. 169.

The Rev. Edward Davies thought the *viliast* of these *cromlechau* was his famous goddess Ceridwen. Both these explanations are very far-fetched, and certainly untrue. I think that the true significance of this group of names is neither historical nor allegorical, but legendary.

In the tale of "Kilhwch and Olwen," we read of a legendary animal, called *Gast Rhymhi*; and, singularly enough, one of the *cromlechs*, called *Gwal y filast*, or the kennel of the greyhound bitch, happens to be near the river Rhymney, on the Monmouth side; but this is simply a coincidence. The Cambrian legend in connection with this creature appears to be wholly lost, and I can only recover the mere outlines:—*Gast Rhymhi* was originally a female, and most probably one of distinction; and for some reason or other, in accordance with mediæval ideas, she was transformed into a she-wolf. It is at this stage that she is noticed in the above-named story. Kilhwch demands the assistance of Arthur and his knights to obtain the hand of Olwen, his lady-love; and among other things, he demands "the two cubs of *Gast Rhymhi*." Arthur goes in search of this animal, and inquires where she is: some one answers that she is at Milford. The hero found the she-wolf in a cave at that place; and having surrounded her and her two cubs, the story states, "that God did change them again for Arthur into their own form." In this legend, it seems to me, we have the origin of these singular names; *cromlechau* would naturally be deemed fit habitations for such a creature: and when wolves had been forgotten, and the story worn away, a *bleiddast* might easily have given place to a *milast*. The only difficulty in the explanation may therefore be removed in this way:—

LLECH Y GAWRESS, or the stone of the princess, or

giantess, in Cardiganshire, was another name for a cromlech no longer existing; and it appears to me not improbable that this giantess, or princess, for the word *cawr*, as was clearly shown by Mr. Lewis Morris, the well-known antiquary, very often means a prince, may have been the human form of *Gast Rhymhi*.

This is the best explanation that the native materials enable me to give; but in this, as in many other instances, the legends of Wales, to be fully understood, must be viewed from the standpoint of European literature. The legend of *Gast Rhymhi* suffices to explain the origin of those local names, but itself demands a fuller elucidation. It is the Cambrian form of the famous legend of Melusina; but as this may not be generally known, I will give a brief outline of the story, from the writings of Keightley, Thoms, and other writers on fairy mythology. There was an ancient priestess of the infernal Ceres, named Melissa; but it is uncertain whether this name has any connection with the following legend, though there are clear proofs that many similar stories, such as those of men transformed into stags, wolves or boars have a direct relation to the classic metamorphoses. The story runs thus:—The king of Albania married a fairy named Pressina, by whom he had three daughters, one of whom was named *Melusina*. Having offended her mother, she was condemned to become a serpent from the waist downwards every Saturday, until she should marry a man who would never see her on that day. She married a Count Raymond, of Lusignan; but the marriage was rendered unhappy by the deformity of their two sons. One of these burnt the other to death; and this calamity led Count Raymond, who had previously discovered his wife's secret, to banish the "odious serpent, and contaminator of his race" from his sight. At these reproaches she fainted away; and, in obedience to a decree of destiny, was compelled to traverse the earth in pain and suffering, as a spectacle, until the day of doom. But, so celebrated became her story towards the fourteenth century, that several of the noblest houses in France falsified

their genealogies to show a descent from her; and, to gratify one of these, it was feigned that, on leaving Lusignan, she retired to the cave of Sassenage, in Dauphiny. Her story gave rise to the fabulous beings called *Melusinæ*, who (it is said) were transformed by Satan into spectres, malignant spirits, and *horrible monsters*, who were further said to infest deserts, woods, *monuments*, and lonely sea coasts. Lycanthropy was the most common fount of mediæval metamorphoses; and men-wolves, or wolf-men, figure frequently in the legends of that period.

In this story we have the European original of a legend, of which the tale about *Gast Rhymhi* is the Cambrian form. The word *vilast*, or *milast*, is possibly a corruption of Melissa, Melusina, or *Melicendis*, which is sometimes connected therewith; the *fleiddast*, and the *ast*, are descriptive of her she-wolf form; the two cubs were probably the two sons; and *Rhymhi* is probably a corruption of Raymond. *Gast Rhymhi* is, therefore, the she-wolf of Raymond; and it is most probable that the names of these Cambrian monuments are derived from this legend, and are subsequent to the fourteenth century.

LLECH Y DRYBED is another name for a cromlech in Pembroke; but it appears to be purely descriptive; for the *trybedd*, or trivet, was an utensil used for holding pans and kettles over a hearth fire; and this stone, poised on three others, has been thus designated from its resemblance to the domestic tripods, which are probably still in use in those parts of Wales where coal and grates are unknown, or unusual.

TY ILLTYD, or the house of St. Illtyd, is the name of a well-known cromlech in Breconshire, and appears to have received this appellation from a popular idea that the saint had made this his cell; but, of course, the name is purely fanciful; for, though St. Illtutus is thought to have spent his last days in that county, we cannot suppose that this was his habitation.

YR HEN EGLWYS, or the Old Church, is the local designation of a cromlech in Glamorganshire; but, as

Glamorgan is the stronghold of the temple theory, and as this name savours strongly of theoretical preconception, but little reliance can be placed upon it. The name is evidently modern; and probably belongs to that heretical theosophy known as the Bardism of the Chair of Glamorgan.

DYFFRYN GOLYCH.—Another name, supposed to give much support to the temple theory, is that of Dyffryn Golych, in which now stands the largest cromlech in South Wales, if not in the whole Principality. The name *Golych* is rendered by some parties, "worship;" and, again, is said to be a compound of *Gawl* and *lluch*, two words signifying light. Hence this name is considered to have reference to the asserted druidic practice of worshipping "in the face of the sun, and in the eye of light." But, independently of the insufficiency of the proofs hitherto adduced to show that the Druids did worship in this way, there are two objections to these versions of that word. In the first place, the word occurs as the proper name of the Golich brook, which flows through, and gives its name to, the *dyffryn*, or valley; and, in the second, the orthography is Golich, not Golych, and will not sustain either of the above explanations. The name occurs in the *Liber Landavensis*, where we read of the Golich brook, the spring of Golich, of Trev Golich, and of Blaen Pant Golich (pp. 402, 502, 571). Hence I conclude, that Dyffryn Golich is neither more nor less than the valley of the Golich brook. Two of the names here cited seem to imply that Golich was originally a personal name.

These are all the names of *cromlechs* that now occur to me; but two other names, for what are termed druidic circles, deserve to be added to the list. A circle of this kind in Caermarthenshire is called by the two names of *Buarth Arthur*, or Arthur's fold, and *Meini Gwyr*. The first name is to be explained in the same way as the other names forming the Arthurian group; the latter, which has reference to the stones themselves, as distinguished from the circle which they form, indicates the



popular impression that these stones were monumental ; for *Meini Gwyr* mean the stones or monuments of warriors. *Meini Cyfriol* is a name which indicates something of the same kind, but more faintly. Nennius, speaking of a tumulus on the banks of the Wye, says that the measurement of it was never the same for two successive times ; and *Meini Cyfriol* are similarly named, from an impression, now confined to country people, that they could never be accurately counted.

Having thus exhausted the list of names, we come to consider their bearing upon "the cromlech question ;" and the result, so far as my sagacity extends, is wholly negative. It is, however, but justice to so eminent a scholar as Mr. Archdeacon Williams, to state, that he considers some of these names to be far more significant than they appear to me ; for, in one of the series of sixteen very able and learned letters on the cromlech question, he mentioned several of these names, and promised afterwards to show at length that they supported the altar or temple theory. I am not aware that he has ever done so ; but should he at any future time return to the subject, and demonstrate to my satisfaction that these explanations are unsound, I shall have no hesitation in acknowledging myself to stand corrected ; for there are but few men so capable of doing as much justice as can be done to the modern Cambrian view of this subject.

The cromlech question itself is in far abler hands ; but in respect of the Welsh names of these structures in various parts of the country, I am decidedly of opinion that they throw no light whatever upon the origin or use of the cromlech ; the results are wholly negative ; the names leave the question exactly where it was ; they give no support of a reliable kind to either the grave or the altar theory, unless we may draw from them a conclusion of this kind—that the structures are so very old as to have left no indications of their use or origin in either the language or traditions of the Kymry. The popular fancy in affixing these various names to the southern cromlechau, appears to have been unrestrained



by any tradition as to their former uses, or real character; and, if the conclusion here suggested has any foundation in fact, the negative results of this inquiry tend to support the views of the Danish antiquary, Chevalier Worsaae, that they are not the remains of any Keltic or Kymric race. However, I do not attach much importance to the suggestion here thrown out; but as, in all honest researches, it is of much importance to clear away all that is not relevant to the inquiry, this little paper may prove serviceable in that way.

In support of these views, we may cite the opinion of Dr. Owen Pughe, who, upon such a subject, may be considered the best authority. In the preface to his *Llywarch Hen*, he has these remarks:—

“*Maen Gorsedd*, the import of which is the stone of the assembly, was also called *Crair Gorsedd*, or the covenant place of the assembly, and *Maen Llôg*, the stone of covenant; but *it never was called cromlech, nor is this name to be found in any old manuscript whatever*. It is therefore a name unfairly obtruded upon the public. The altar *might* be called *cromlech* for the same reason as other stones of the like form and position are termed in common language, but it has not the least allusion to the use which the bards made of it.”—p. xlvii.

This celebrated preface, which, under the name of primitive druidism, sets forth the speculations of the bardic heretics of the fifteenth century, was written under the inspiration of Iolo Morganwg; and it is possible that the statement above made may also claim his sanction. In either case it is quite conclusive as to the recentness of the word “cromlech.”

It will, of course, be observed that I have confined my observations to the cromlechau of South Wales, being less familiar with northern ground; but if some other antiquary would write a similar paper on the cromlechau of Gwynedd, he would render an acceptable service to Cambrian archæology.

T. STEPHENS.

Merthyr Tydvil, Nov. 1855.

## KIDWELLY CHURCH.

THE church is one of the most remarkable in South Wales, and, though retaining many of the features characteristic of the district, it would appear, so far as its details are concerned, to be the work of an architect from some other neighbourhood.

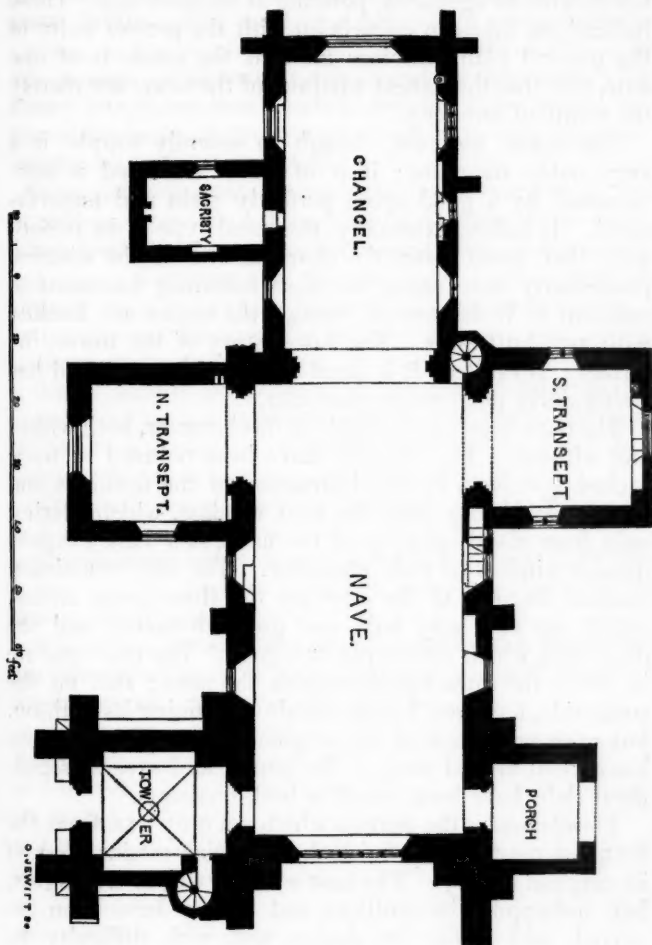
It consists of a nave, of the extraordinary span of 33 feet in the clear, without aisles; small north and south transepts; and an ample chancel; forming altogether a simple and uniform cross. The tower stands at the north-western angle of the nave, forming a north porch, opposite which is an ordinary porch on the south side. There is also an ample sacristy, or vestry, on the north side of the chancel.

The plan is, however, not precisely of its original form, as the nave has been very considerably shortened, so that the tower and the porch, instead of being, as at present, at the western angles, were formerly about midway between those angles and the transepts.

Though the tower would appear at first sight of earlier date, I am inclined to believe that the whole church (excepting, of course, alterations and mutilations of comparatively modern periods) is of *one* age, and that it was erected, on one uniform design, about the end of the reign of Edward II., or early in that of Edward III.

The chancel and the tower are the only parts which now show very distinctly the original character of the church. They appear at first sight to differ greatly in style, the chancel having rich flowing tracery in its windows, while those of the tower are of a severe lancet form. On close examination, however, I am led to the conclusion that this is not the result of any difference in their dates, but merely of a desire for the one feature to be as rich, and the other as simple, as their means on the one hand, and the style of the period on the other, would permit. I draw this conclusion from the following evidence:—there is so strong a resemblance between the mouldings of the doorways, (including both of those in

tower,) and the arches into the chancel and transepts, as to prove them all to be of one age. As, however, the window tracery of the nave is gone, it might be objected that the nave, with the transept and chancel arches, may



Plan of Kidwelly Church.

be all of earlier date than the chancel itself. I find, however, a loophole, on the south side of the nave, distinctly agreeing with the style and age of the chancel; and, on further examination, I find another, in the staircase to the tower, with an ogee arch, pointing at the same age. These indications, taken in connection with the perfect unity of the general plan, convince me that the whole is of one date, and that the Lancet windows of the tower are merely the result of economy.

The tower, however, though so severely simple, is a very noble structure; it is of great size, and is surmounted by a good spire, perfectly plain and unperforated. It unites, externally, the usual type of its period, with that more distinctly characteristic of the district, particularly in retaining the high battering basement so constant in Welsh towers, though the angles are flanked with two buttresses. The lower story of the tower, internally, is vaulted; it is faced with rough stone, and has a singularly picturesque character.

The nave is perfectly simple in its character, both within and without. The windows have been reduced to mere arched openings, by the destruction of the mullions and tracery, excepting only the west window, which, dating only from the shortening of the nave, is a Late Perpendicular window of rude character. The only remaining internal features of the nave are the three great arches, which are of a very bold and good character, and the doorways, which are simple, but good. The transepts are in much the same condition with the nave; that on the south side, however, has one window retaining its mullion, but apparently not of the original date. This transept has several arched recesses for tombs, and several sepulchral slabs have been found in both transepts.

The *chancel* is the portion which not only was, from the first, the most highly finished, but which retains most of its original beauty. The east window was of five lights, but, unhappily, its mullions and tracery have been removed, and I fear its design will with difficulty be recovered from the fragments scattered in different parts

of the borough. On the south side, however, two windows retain the whole of their tracery, and the other a portion of it, all of excellent character. On the north side the windows are blocked, but one seems nearly perfect. The sedilia and piscina are perfect, and of very good design. The vestry has been in a great measure rebuilt on the old foundation. It has formerly been of two stories. The stairs to the upper story remain, with a very pretty traceried loophole opening into the chancel. On either side of the vestry doors are well moulded octagonal brackets for lights.

The chancel arch is segmental, and very low, not extending above the height of the side walls of the nave. There is a rood-stair, the entrance of which is blocked up, but it would appear as if it must have opened over the chancel arch, over which the rood-loft may possibly have extended,—an arrangement which would account for the lowness of the arch.

The roofs are throughout of late date. That to the chancel is the best, and appears to be of about the time of James I.; that to the nave is probably of the last century, but is in parts decayed, and hardly safe.

The walls are of massive thickness, and are generally in a sound state.

The parapet of the tower is nearly all gone, and the upper part of the spire has been rebuilt so badly as to destroy its symmetry.

The space between the western gable and the tower has been filled up with a dead wall, to the destruction of the beauty of that end of the church.

GEO. GILBERT SCOTT.

## ANCIENT AND MODERN DIVISIONS OF CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

(Read at Llandeilo Fawr.)

CAERMARTHENSHIRE was first constituted shire ground, or a county, by the statute of Rhuddlan, 12 Edward I., A.D. 1284. It derives that name from its principal town, but is better known in Welsh history as Ystrad Tywy. By the statute referred to, it was provided that there be sheriffs, coroners, and bailiffs of commots for Caermarthenshire, with its ancient cantrefs and commots, metes and bounds. The *Myvyrian Archæology* (ii. p. 606) contains an account of the divisions of Wales at the time of Llewelyn ap Gruffydd, the last of the native princes. There are two statements of the divisions of Caermarthenshire, as first:—

1st,—Cantref Finioc; containing the commots of Hirvryn, Pervedd and Is-Cennen.

2nd,—Cantref yr Egeiniog or Eginog; with the commots of Gwr, Cydweli, Carnwayllon.

3rd,—Cantref Bychan; with the commots of Mallâen, Caeo, Maenor Deilo.

4th,—Cantref Mawr; with the commots Cethiniog, Mab Elwy, Mab Uchtryd, Widigada.

The second statement:—

1st,—Cantref Bychan; with Hirvryn, Pervedd, Is-Cennen.

2nd,—Cantref Eginawg; with the commots Cydweli, Carn y Williawn, Gwr.

3rd,—Cantref Mawr; with the commots of Mallâen, Caeau, Maenor Deilo, Cetheiniawg, Mab Elwy, Mab Utryd, Widigada.

It is difficult at this time to reconcile these rather conflicting accounts of the divisions. Calling in the authority of Giraldus in his *Cambriæ Descriptio*, we find he says,—“Tywi Cantref mawr et Cantref Bychan ab invicem separans per Castrum Llanymddyfri per Castellum Dinevor silvis et situ munitissimum per nobile

*Castrum de Caermardhen usque ad Castellum de Llanstephan in mare transfertur.*"—p. 185.

It would seem that the latter description is the best defined, as the Cantref Eginawg would embrace the ancient principality or kingdom of Rheged, or the country between the rivers Tawe and Towey, now divided into the hundreds of Gwr, Cydweli, Carnwilliawn, and Iscennen. At the head of this territory stands Carreg Cennen Castle, the original foundation of which is ascribed to Urien Rheged, a British prince, who lived about the close of the fifth century, and became the princely root of a family tree spreading widely in South Wales, to whom the present Lord Dynevor, through his illustrious ancestor Sir Rhys ap Thomas, traces his descent. Cantref Bychan embraced the present hundred of Pervedd, and the district above the Towy, and of this, Llandovery and its castle were the capital; while Cantref Mawr would embrace all the district west of the Towy, and of this Dynevor at one time, and at another Caermarthen, was the capital. The first statement places Caer in Cantref Bychan; but Giraldus is express in ascribing Caer to Cantref Mawr.

By statute 27 Henry VIII., ch. 26, called the Act of Union, reciting that "there be divers lordships marchers between England and Wales, and being no parcel of any other shires where the laws and due correction is used and had, by reason whereof hath ensued and hath been practised, perpetrated, committed and done, within and among the said lordships and countries to them adjoining, manifold and detestable murthers, brenning of houses, robberies, thefts, trespasses, routs, riots, unlawful assemblies, embraceries, maintenances, receiving of felons, oppression, ruptures of the peace, and manifold other malefacts, contrary to all laws and justice, and the said offenders make refuge from lordship to lordship; for reformation whereof, forasmuch as divers and many of the said lordships were then in the hands and possession of the king, and the smallest number in possession of other lords," it is enacted, that the several lordships





marchers named in the Act be annexed to various adjoining counties in England or Wales, the Lordships of "Llanymthevery, Abermerles, Kedwelly, Eskinning, Cornwolphon, New Castle Emel, Abergoyly" (*query* Abergwili), were by this authority annexed to Caermarthen; and by the same Act, Gower, which had previously formed part of Caermarthenshire, was taken from it and united to Glamorgan and "Mordonoke." In ecclesiastical division, the deanery of Gower is still within the archdeaconry of Caermarthen, and diocese of St. David's.

Lord Herbert of Cherbury, in his *Life of Henry VIII.*, informs us that, before this statute, the marches of Wales consisted of 140 lordships marchers; (in point of fact, 141 are enumerated) possessing *jura regalia*, and that the great view of the legislature was to reduce these jarring customs to uniformity. Previously, the administration of justice in a great part of Wales was in the hands of these lords marchers, each of whom exercised a kind of sovereignty within his district, and became, in the person of his steward, the judge, who in effect ruled, absolute; enjoying, at the same time, all the emoluments of judicature, as fees, fines, forfeitures and amercements. A blow had been previously struck at this power by an Act of the same session, ch. 24, wherein, after stating that divers of the most ancient prerogatives of the crown had been severed from it by gift of the king's progenitors, to the detriment of royalty and the delay of justice, it ordains that no person in future shall have authority to pardon offences but the king. By sec. 26 of the Act of Union, the Chancellor of England is directed to issue a commission, under the great seal, to such persons as to him shall be thought convenient, to inquire and view certain of the Welsh counties, and amongst them Caermarthen; and thereupon to divide them, and every of them, into so many hundreds as they shall think most meet and convenient; and the said hundreds shall certify into the High Court of Chancery, which hundreds (after the said certificate) shall be used and taken as the hundreds be



in every other shire within the realm of England. And by the next section of the same act, power is given to issue another commission to inquire into the laws, usages and customs in those several counties, and to certify the same to the king in council.

By the 28 Henry VIII., ch. 3, three years were allowed for correction of the allotment of hundreds; and by 31 Henry VIII., ch. 2, three years farther were allowed. That the returns ordered by the acts were made respectively to the Court of Chancery and to the King's Council there can be no doubt, though not to be found in Rymer; nor have searches in the archives of the Court of Chancery and of the Privy Council hitherto proved successful. This is much to be regretted, as those returns must have furnished many curious and interesting particulars that would have thrown light upon the history of the county. Upon those returns were framed certain ordinances which were afterwards confirmed at the end of the Act 34 & 35 Henry VIII., ch. 26. Under the sec. 117 of these ordinances, the lordships of Llanstephan, Usterloys and Laugharne are transferred from Pembroke, as parcel of the hundred of Derllys, in Caermarthenshire; and it is ordained that the tenants and inhabitants of the said lordships be attendant to such county of Caermarthen.

This transfer of the lands betwixt the Towy and the Tave from Pembrokeshire to Caermarthen, might seem like a compensation for the territory of Gower taken away from Caermarthen, and given to Glamorgan, by the previous statute of 27 Henry VIII., ch. 26, if that minute and curious antiquary, George Owen, had not left us the true history of this change in the divisions of the county (MSS. of G. Owen, referred to by Mr. Fenton as having been in his possession):—

“When Wales was created shire ground, the Tave, and in one part the Towy, was made the boundary of the county of Pembroke. By the 34 Henry VIII., the lordships of Laugharne, Llanstephan, Oysterlow and Llandowror, &c., were taken away from Pembrokeshire and annexed to Caermarthenshire; for Sir Tho<sup>s</sup>. Jones, who had married the widow of Sir Tho<sup>s</sup>. Perrott, an

old court favourite, and lived at Haroldstone, near Haverfordwest,<sup>1</sup>—for three hundred years the residence of one of the greatest Pembrokeshire families, the Perrots, who came into possession by marriage with Alice, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Rich<sup>d</sup>. Harold,—though a Caermarthenshire man, being then knight of the shire for the county of Pembroke, and having nothing in Pembrokeshire but during his wife's life, only 'by favour' (as George Owen expresses it), he bore to Caermarthen, assented, and was the man that took the same from Pembrokeshire, and did annex it to his own native county of Caermarthen; whereas, Pembrokeshire had no man in that parliament to speak for the shire in defence thereof, but trusted the said Sir Tho<sup>s</sup>. Jones to deal for the same, whereby it was lost before any man of the shire knew thereof, by the partial procurement of the said Sir Tho<sup>s</sup>. Jones, as before observed."

The spirited antiquary then adduces very cogent reasons, as he thought, for those lordships, thus, as he expresses it, "swindled away," being restored to Pembrokeshire.

The division made of Caermarthenshire consequent upon the Acts of Union, as at present recognized, are, 1st, Pervedd; 2nd, Cao; 3rd, Cathinoc; 4th, Elvet, 5th, Derllys, which are the modern hundreds, and are each divided into upper and lower portions, with the three commots of Kidwelly, Carnwilliawn and Iscennen, the only instance it is believed where the names of those ancient metes and bounds of territorial divisions in Wales have been retained to this day. The three commots also have the further peculiarity of being Duchy lands, *i.e.* held under the palatinate county of Lancaster, though locally situated in the county of Caermarthen.

Bishop Goodwyn, in his *Life of Henry VIII.*, much commends the Statutes of Union between England and Wales, and says that the good effects thereof were fully

<sup>1</sup> Sir Thomas Perrot, gentleman of the bedchamber to Henry VIII., and father of Sir John Perrot, Lord Deputy of Ireland in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in 1588. He was recalled from Ireland, and arraigned and found guilty of high treason, but sentence was not executed, for death in the Tower put an end to his troubles, and saved him the ignominy of the scaffold. Queen Elizabeth was pleased to restore his forfeited estates, as Camden suggests, because he married the Earl of Essex's sister.

experienced at the time he wrote. Like oil poured upon the troubled waters, it tempered the factions and discontents then prevalent in Wales, and restored peace and tranquillity to its inhabitants.

Notwithstanding the use of the terms manors, or lordships, in the Statutes of Union, there is the strongest reason to believe that the feudal system was never adopted in Wales. The law of gavelkind, which was universal in Great Britain anterior to the Norman Conquest, remained in Wales till the time of Henry VIII. ; and this is incompatible with feudal notions and principles. In the three most ancient counties of North Wales, viz., Anglesey, Caernarvon and Merioneth, there are no manors, nor manorial courts or rights, or the least remains of feudal tenures. And in the two counties of Caermarthen and Cardigan, in South Wales, there are no copyhold tenures ; and the lordships mentioned in the Acts are presumed to have been territorial divisions, not manors. In the Welsh counties bordering upon England, some kings of the Norman line, in order to keep the Welsh in subjection, made large grants of lands to be conquered. In these territories, which the grantees *gained* by permission from the crown, they held courts, which are still kept by prescription. In such instances there are some appearances of the feudal system ; but it must be remembered that even those few vestiges are the remains of Norman policy, and make no part of the ancient British constitution ; and it may be therefore concluded that the feudal system was never adopted among the ancient Britons, nor was it probably known in the island till the Norman Conquest.<sup>2</sup>

T. O. MORGAN.

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<sup>2</sup> From the discussion which followed this paper, it appears that there are copyholds in the manor of Talley, Caermarthenshire, being the only solitary instance pointed out ;—that amounts only to an exception, which proves the general rule to have been otherwise.

## NOTICES OF BRONZE CELTS AND OF CELT-MOULDS FOUND IN WALES.

THE antiquities of bronze found in the British islands present a subject of investigation, not less attractive, on account of their varied forms and perfect preservation, than important, as regards the obscure period to which they mostly belong. The more remote origin of these forms, or their analogy with some of the more primitive types amongst antiquities of stone, the circumstances connected with their manufacture, or the uses for which they were designed, present questions of difficult solution, and of essential interest to those who would endeavour to track out the history of the past through these scattered vestiges, where written records are deficient.

All who have given attention to our earlier remains must have perceived how impracticable it is to bring them within the narrowed scope of certain artificial systems of classification. It would, as I conceive, materially aid the scientific arrangement of the more ancient objects discovered in this country, and which some are content to distribute under certain convenient divisions,—the Age of Stone, the Age of Bronze, and that of Iron,—if careful discrimination were made as regards the types, or the groups of types, found in particular localities. It were an object well worthy of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, in the absence of any central museum of Cambrian antiquities, to illustrate the various forms of those reliques of the earlier periods which have been brought to light in the Principality. As a contribution towards such a purpose, I would offer the following notices.

It is scarcely necessary to advert to the special interest of the antiquities of bronze which our country has produced, on account of the essentially British character of the compound metal of which they are formed. Tin, necessary for its composition, has been found in small quantities in Germany and Sweden, but we have no ground for the supposition that the copious provision

which supplied all the countries of Europe, and some remoter lands, was obtained from other sources than Britain. In every object, therefore, of bronze, wherever the place of actual manufacture may have been, we see a certain vestige of the ancient industry of Britain; whilst such indication of the metallurgical skill, and of the commerce of the Cassiterides, is almost the sole fact which has reached us, amidst the obscurity of prehistoric times.

Several instances have been recorded of the discovery, in various parts of Wales, of those bronze implements to which antiquaries have commonly assigned the name of Celts. The class of ancient objects thus designated comprises a variety of forms, indicating a progressive development of ingenuity in their manufacture; and adapted, doubtless, for various purposes which, hitherto, have not been ascertained. The principal types are familiar doubtless to most readers of this Journal, the most simple, (which probably replaced the still more simple axe of stone,) being a kind of wedge, or axe-head, without any perforation to receive a handle. A similar form next occurs with flanged edges, to which was, by degrees, added an elevation, or "stop-ridge," as it has been termed, at mid-length. To this succeeded the type with more strongly marked central ridge, more elevated lateral flanges, and most commonly with a loop at the side. To this type archæologists have recently concurred in applying the name of "palstave," or paalstab, assigned to it by the antiquaries of the North; being that of an implement, similar in general form, still commonly used in Iceland and some Scandinavian countries.<sup>1</sup> Lastly, we have the hollow or socketed celt, sometimes termed the "pot-celt," with a loop at the side.<sup>2</sup> It were much

<sup>1</sup> See the account communicated to Mr. Yates, by Dr. Thomsen, of Copenhagen, regarding the "Paalstav" now used in Iceland. *Archæological Journal*, vii. p. 74. See also Mr. Thoms' note in Worsaae's *Primeval Antiquities of Denmark*, p. 25.

<sup>2</sup> The suggestion that celts of this form may have served as ferrules for the shafts of spears, deserves investigation. Bronze objects, of very different form, have been regarded as intended for such purpose.

to be desired that distinctive terms could be suggested, by which these different types might appropriately be described. These forms, their minuter varieties serving to show the advance of technical improvements, and the various opinions regarding one of the most perplexing subjects of antiquarian speculation, may be seen in Mr. Lort's *Observations on Celts*, Mr. Dunoyer's *Memoirs on their classification*, and in other archæological treatises.<sup>3</sup>

Examples of this class of antiquities of bronze appear to have been less commonly noticed in Wales than in other parts of the United Kingdom, and especially in Ireland. Cambrian specimens, however, of all the types above mentioned, are not wanting. Rowlands, in his *Mona Antiqua*, has recorded the following discovery at the Rhiedd, in Anglesey, on the shore of the Menai, eastward of the spot where, according to tradition, the Romans landed under Suetonius:—

There, he says, "the other day, were taken up, from under a stone near the sea-shore, a parcel of British weapons, a sort of those *jacula amentata*, or such like, (as appears probable from their loop-holes and sockets,) in use among the ancients."<sup>4</sup>

It is evident from the representations given by Rowlands, however unskilfully delineated, that these *jacula* were palstaves, furnished with the loops at the side. From this adjustment he was inclined to regard them as sling-hatchets, an opinion which some in more recent times have been disposed to adopt. He speaks of these

See Skelton's *Goodrich Court Armory*, i. pl. 47, fig. 12; *Archæological Journal*, xii. p. 55.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Lort has summed up the conjectures of the earlier writers on the subject of celts; see *Archæologia*, v. p. 106, plates 7 to 10. Mr. Dunoyer has given numerous examples, chiefly from the British Museum, *Archæological Journal*, iv. pp. 1, 327. See also the "Memoir on Celts," by the Rev. T. Hugo, *Journal of the Archæological Association*, ix. p. 63, and some observations by Mr. H. Syer Cumming, *ibid.* p. 184; Dr. Wilson's *Prehistoric Annals of Scotland*, p. 252, &c.

<sup>4</sup> *Mona Antiqua*, p. 86. Second edition, after the author's death. The first appeared in 1723.

objects as frequently found in Anglesey, and indeed in all Wales.

The precise spot where this remarkable discovery occurred, in the neighbourhood of intrenched works and vestiges of some memorable conflict, is in the parish of Llanidan, on the shores of Anglesey, near a place known as the Great Army's Field (Maes Mawr Gad). The Romans, tradition affirms, entered the strait about two hundred yards south of Llanfair Church, on the Caernarvonshire shore, and crossed to a spot called the Gloomy Ferry (Porth-Amwyll).

Another similar discovery is related to have occurred about the same time at Diganwy, or Gannoc, a place, once of considerable importance, on the eastern shore of the Conway river, near its mouth, and on the peninsula which terminates in the Great Orme's Head. Camden supposed Diganwy to be the *DICTUM* of the Itinerary. Vestiges of walls only remain, and it is believed traditionally to have been the scene of many a struggle. Here a considerable deposit of celts was found in 1720, under a great stone. They were laid in regular order, "heads and points."<sup>5</sup>

Mr. Strange, who wrote a *Memoir on Ancient Remains in Brecknockshire*, gives a celt of the socketed type, found under a "Druid altar" in that county.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Brereton was in possession of one found at Ledbrook, in the town of Old Flint. A bronze palstave, with the side-loop, was found in a quarry on the side of Moel yr Henllys, Montgomeryshire, and is figured by Bishop Gibson, in his edition of Camden's *Britannia*.<sup>7</sup> In 1786, Mr. Brereton exhibited to the Society of

<sup>5</sup> Camden's *Britannia*, edit. Gough, iii. p. 192. A considerable number of palstaves were likewise found some years since near Harlech; one of these, very imperfectly formed, and having the side-loop, is in the British Museum. Amongst the Sloane Collections also there are two palstaves described as found in North Wales.

<sup>6</sup> *Archæologia*, iv. p. 24, pl. 1. The earlier writers delighted to connect these implements with the supposed rites of the Druids, and the cutting of mistletoe, &c.

<sup>7</sup> See also Gough's edition, iii. p. 192, pl. 8.



Antiquaries another example, of the simple axe-head form, found in Montgomeryshire. "Instances of any such instruments found in Wales are extremely rare," as he observed. A celt with flanged edges, and of elegant form, found in Flintshire, was shown at the same time.<sup>8</sup>

Amongst the collections formed by the late Sir S. Meyrick, at Goodrich Court, there is preserved a palstave, without the side-loop. It is described as "a battle-axe of the earliest form, found on Pendinas Hill, near Aberystwyth. This was called by the Britons *bwyallt-awr*." There are also, in the same collection, socketed celts, designated by Sir S. Meyrick as "battle-axes on an improved principle."—(Skelton's *Illustrations of the Goodrich Court Armory*, i. pl. 47.) The Rev. Hugh Jones, D.D., Rector of Beaumaris, presented to the Archæological Institute a looped palstave in fine preservation, found in ploughing a field, called Rhos-y-gad, (the meadow of the battle,) near the Llanvair Station, the first station after passing the tubular bridge into Anglesey. Another small bronze palstave, but without the loop, and having the stop-ridge remarkably prominent, was found in the same field. It is now in Dr. Jones' possession, and was exhibited by him in the Museum, at the recent meeting of the Archæological Institute in Shrewsbury.

Other instances might be enumerated, of more recent discoveries of celts in Wales. In 1835, the late Lord Stanley of Alderley communicated to the Society of Antiquaries various bronze objects, spears, rings, &c., found at Ty Mawr, on Holyhead Mountain. Amongst these was a bronze celt.<sup>9</sup> Several bronze celts and palstaves found in Wales were produced at the meetings of the Cambrian Archæological Association at Dolgellau, in 1850, and at Tenby, in 1851, by the Rev. J. M.

<sup>8</sup> See Archæologia, v. pl. 8, fig. 1.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.* xxvi. p. 483. A remarkably well-finished palstave with a side-loop, found at Corsygedol, Merionethshire, is in the possession of Mr. Bowen, of Shrewsbury.

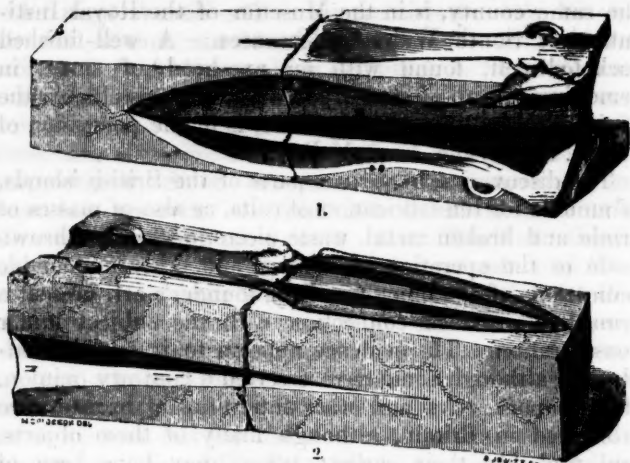
Traherne, Mr. Fenton, and Mr. Morgan. Amongst these were celts of various types from the neighbourhood of Harlech, and others from a turbary in Cardiganshire.<sup>1</sup> A bronze looped palstave, found at Newton Nottage, Glamorganshire, is figured in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.<sup>2</sup> A good example of the socketed celt, found in the same county, is in the Museum of the Royal Institution of South Wales, at Swansea. A well-finished socketed celt, found with an axe-head of stone, in removing a heap of stones at Tangraig y castellh, in the parish of Llansilin, Denbighshire, is in the possession of W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., M.P.

The discoveries, in various parts of the British islands, of moulds for the fabrication of celts, as also of masses of crude and broken metal, waste pieces, or "jets," thrown aside in the operation of casting, and other undeniable indications of the practices of the founder's art, present a remarkable fact in connection with the subject under consideration. The evidence appears to justify the conclusion, although some have asserted a contrary opinion, that weapons, celts, and other antiquities of bronze were fabricated in Britain, although many of these objects, and probably their earliest types, may have been of foreign importation. The moulds in question are either of stone or of bronze, displaying great ingenuity and perfection in technical contrivance. Of moulds formed of both materials, examples have occurred in Wales. In 1846 a very remarkable object of this class was brought to light in the western part of Anglesey, between Bodwrdin and Tre Ddafydd. The accompanying representation, from a drawing by Mr. H. Pidgeon, gives a correct notion of this curious moiety of a mould, formed of hone-stone, a four-sided prism, with a cavity on each of its faces, so that it was destined for the production of four distinct castings. The discovery was forthwith made known to the Archæological Institute by the Hon. W.

<sup>1</sup> *Archæologia Cambrensis*, i. Second Series, p. 331 ; ii. p. 334.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* iv. p. 93.

O. Stanley, and a notice appeared in their *Journal*, iii. p. 257. The mould was subsequently purchased by James Dearden, Esq., of Rochdale, in whose possession it now remains. Its dimensions are as follow : length,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches ; breadth of each side at the wider end, 2 inches ; at the other,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It is obvious that a second prism of stone,



Mould of hone-stone, found in Anglesey.—Length,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches ; breadth of each side at the widest end, 2 inches ; at the narrower end,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

precisely similar, was required to render the apparatus complete. It would then be adapted for casting spear-heads of two forms ; one of them with an unusually short socket, both types having side-loops ; a very sharp spike,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, probably intended for the point of a javelin or other missile ; and a socketed celt, with this almost unique peculiarity, that it had a loop at either side.<sup>3</sup> The stone, unluckily broken by the finder's pick-

<sup>3</sup> The central portion of a stone mould for the manufacture of socketed celts, one face presenting the very rare type of the celt with two loops, as in the example above mentioned, was found near Everly, Wilts. It is figured in the *Barrow Diggers*, p. 78. It was in the collection of the late Rev. E. Duke, of Lake House, Amesbury. Stone moulds for casting spears are of great rarity ; they have occurred in Ireland.

axe, was chiselled with singular skill and precision. This discovery was briefly noticed in the First Series of this Journal, i. p. 188; ii. p. 187.

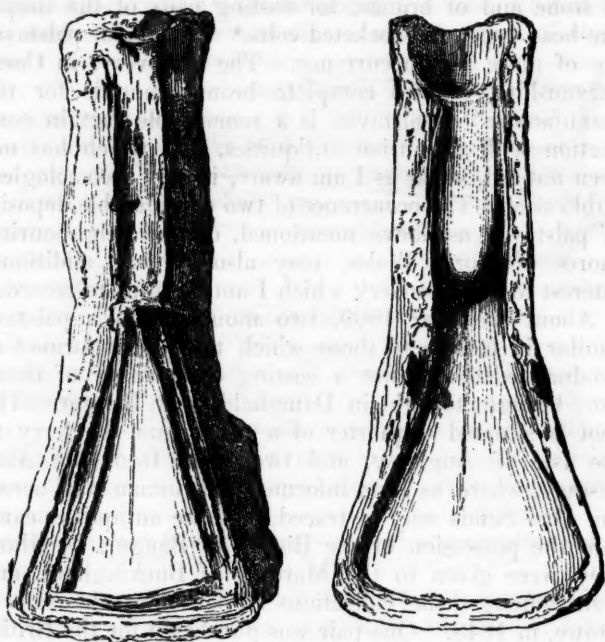
There exist in various collections other moulds, both of stone and of bronze, for casting celts of the simple axe-head type, and socketed celts.<sup>4</sup> Moulds for palstaves are of more rare occurrence. The discovery, in Caernarvonshire, of two complete bronze moulds for the manufacture of palstaves, is a remarkable fact in connection with Cambrian antiquities, and which has not been noticed, as far as I am aware, in any archæological publication. The occurrence of two considerable deposits of palstaves, as above mentioned, on the neighbouring shores of North Wales, may also give an additional interest to the discovery which I am desirous to record.

About the year 1800, two moulds, and a palstave similar in fashion to those which they were formed to produce, although not a casting from either of them, were brought to light in Danesfield, near Bangor. The spot is situated a quarter of a mile from the ferry to the Isle of Anglesey, and two miles from the Aber passage, where, as I am informed, the Roman road across the Aber Sands may be traced.<sup>5</sup> These antiquities came into the possession of the Bishop of Bangor, by whom they were given to the Marquis of Buckingham, and were amongst the collections dispersed at the sale at Stowe, in 1848. One pair was purchased for the British Museum; the other, with the palstave here represented, the valuable bronze vases from a tumulus at Thornborough, Bucks, and other interesting acquisitions, enriched the Hon. Richard Neville's museum at Audley End. Mr. James Yates, in his memoir *On the Use of Bronze Celts in Military Operations*, gave the following account of the mould in the British Museum, with representations, on a reduced scale, of the interior and

<sup>4</sup> Figured in Archæological Journal, iv. p. 328-33.

<sup>5</sup> This is the first intimation we have received of any trace of a line of Roman road, the existence of which we some time since noted as probable. We hope that further observations may prove the fact.—  
ED. ARCH. CAMB.

exterior of one portion of it. (See the accompanying woodcuts.) He stated that, with the exception of one found in 1844, in France,<sup>6</sup> this was the only example known to him formed for casting palstaves:—



Mold of a bronze mould for casting palstaves; formerly in the Stowe collection, now in the British Museum. Exterior and interior view.—Half original size.

“The pattern on the outside, consisting of three acute-angled triangles, one within the other, is neat, though less elaborate than the ornament of some of the moulds for casting hollow celts. The two parallel ridges which project from the upper part, and the transverse ridge which unites them at the base, afford space for the cavities, which were designed to produce the corresponding ridges in the celt itself, the transverse ridge representing the ‘stop-ridge’ of the celt. In the inside view we observe, at the top, an hemispherical cavity, into which the metal was poured. Immediately below this cup-like cavity, and between the two parallel cavities designed to form the lateral

<sup>6</sup> Described by M. Fillon, *Mem. des Antiqu. de l'Ouest*.

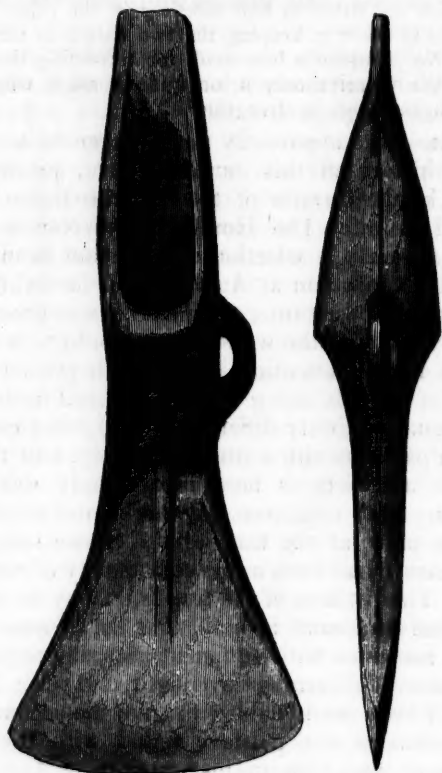
ridges of the celt, we see a portion of the mould occupying the same space which would be occupied in the manufactured celt by one side of the cleft wooden handle. We next observe two tenons on the two sides, and a little below the middle of the mould, which are fitted to two mortices in the other half, and are designed to assist in keeping the two halves in their proper position. No provision is here made for decorating the blade of the celt. We perceive only a longitudinal ridge, which would tend in a slight degree to strengthen it."<sup>7</sup>

Mr. Yates had apparently not been made acquainted with the history of this curious object, possibly then unknown to the Curator of the "British Room" at the British Museum. The Hon. Richard Neville having sent, subsequently, a selection of objects of bronze, celts, &c., from his museum at Audley End, for exhibition at a meeting of the Institute, my surprise was great to perceive a repetition of the well-known mould to which Mr. Yates had invited attention. The result proved that the two sets of moulds being almost identical in dimension and fashion,—the only difference being, that one would produce a palstave with a small side-loop, and the other (of which a moiety is here represented) was formed without any such appliance,—an accidental transposition had taken place at the time of the Stowe sale, and to each purchaser had been assigned a moiety of each of the moulds. The position of the tenons, it may be observed, was so nearly the same in both, that the ill assorted portions had coincided with sufficient accuracy to justify, in some measure, this strange oversight. By Mr. Neville's kindness, I have been enabled to give the accompanying representation of the palstave found with the moulds near Bangor, and now in his museum at Audley End. (See woodcut, two-thirds original size.) It is remarkable that this specimen, which has the side-loop, is not a casting from the mould of similar fashion, and almost precisely of the same dimensions, with which it was found deposited.

The interest of these discoveries, as connected with ancient metallurgical industry in the British islands,

<sup>7</sup> *Archæological Journal*, vi. p. 385.

may, I trust, prove a sufficient excuse for details, which, to some readers, may appear tedious. The source from which our earlier antiquities were derived, and, even in



Bronze palstave, found at Danesfield, near Bangor, with two bronze moulds for casting similar objects. Length of the original,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Preserved in the Hon. R. C. Neville's museum at Audley End.

some cases, as in that of celts, the proper uses for which they were destined, is a subject still involved in much uncertainty. Some intelligent archæologists incline to regard the weapons and implements of bronze found in our country as of Roman manufacture, and the deposits



of broken and crude metal, which frequently occur, the residuum of the melting-pot, and the appliances for casting, as traces of the foundry or workshop of some Roman *æraribus*.<sup>8</sup> To this notion, however, the consideration seems strongly opposed, that swords and celts, weapons and implements, in every variety, as also the appliances for their manufacture, are found in the greatest abundance throughout Ireland, beyond the limits assigned to Roman occupation. It is very probable that the earliest types of the celt or the spear may have been imported, or made specially for the purposes of commerce by those adventurous traders who frequented the British shores. They may have been the *χαλκώματα*, the brazen wares, which, according to Strabo, the rude natives of the Cassiterides received, as also earthen vessels and salt, in barter with the Phœnician merchants for their tin, and lead, and skins. Although Britain possessed the mineral essential to the production of bronze, it seems clear, from the assertion of Cæsar, so often cited, that provision of that metal used by the Britons was derived from foreign sources,—“*ære utuntur importato*.”<sup>9</sup> And although the occurrence of moulds, some of which are of very rude character, and many of them found, as in Ireland, where the Romans were not established, may be admitted as evidence that the natives of the British islands were not unskilled in the founder's art, it is a significant fact that, in many instances where rough metal and the waste of the furnace have been found, the crude masses have frequently proved to be copper, whilst the fragments of damaged weapons, celts, &c., accompanying such deposits, have been of bronze.<sup>1</sup>

ALBERT WAY.

<sup>8</sup> See, on this question, *The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon*, by Mr. T. Wright, p. 74. <sup>9</sup> Cæsar de Bello Gall. lib. v. c. 12.

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. Franks' remarks on this subject, *Archæological Journal*, xi. p. 24. He thinks it possible that the founders of celts, the reliques of whose stock in trade have been found in this country, as above mentioned, may have mixed in the tin as required, and that lumps of that metal might, by careful search, be found with those of copper.

## ON THE METHODS EMPLOYED BY THE ANCIENTS IN WORKING GOLD MINES.

(*Read at Llandeilo Fawr.*)

### SECTION I.

THERE is reason to believe that immediately after the conquest of the southern part of Britain, its mines were worked by the Romans. Masses of lead, inscribed with the names of the Emperors Claudius, Domitian, Vespasian, Hadrian, Antoninus and Verus, have been found, and many of the coins of Carausius and Allectus appear to have been struck, in this country. The name of the Emperor Honorius has been read on a silver ingot, long ago discovered in clearing out foundations in the Tower; and, if correctly interpreted, their mineral workings must have gone on for a period of not less than three hundred and fifty years.

It is probable that some of these emperors were concerned in these pursuits, for Tacitus (vi. 19) says that Tiberius appropriated to his own use the Spanish gold mines (*aurariæ*) of the rich Sextus Marius, whom he cruelly put to death. The numerous British gold coins continually brought to light evince that, if the Britons did not work gold for themselves, at least they shared it with their conquerors, and, under Roman auspices, soon peopled cities renowned for their commerce and wealth.

The contents of the barrows, so carefully investigated in Kent and elsewhere, prove that the Saxons used gold for ornament, if not for coinage.<sup>1</sup> Nor did the Norman kings neglect it. From "The Welsh Rolls of the 6<sup>th</sup> of Edward the First," it appears that he appointed Howell ap Meiric to the charge of the minerals in the bailiwick of Builth, and, from other public records, that gold was included in the licenses to work the "mines royal." The

<sup>1</sup> From the Wardrobe Account, 28 Edward I., we learn that a gold ring, with a sapphire, the workmanship of St. Dunstan, as was believed, belonged to Edward I.,—a gold ring also of the sister of Lewelyn ap Griffith, "quondam Principis Wall."

reserved rent was usually one-ninth to the king, one-tenth to the neighbouring parish churches, and one-thirteenth of the produce to the owner of the soil. The office of "Magister, Finator, Purgator, et Divisor, de *les ores et metalles Regis*"<sup>2</sup> was by no means a sinecure in those days.

I.—Our business, however, is to investigate the practice of far earlier times. Of the three methods of obtaining gold, assuredly the most primitive, and, at one time, the readiest, was by picking it up. Many writers, before Pliny, state that it was found on the surface of the ground fit for use. Let us examine some of these statements, which the experience of our numerous emigrants tends strongly to confirm.

Aristotle (or an early writer under his name) states

<sup>2</sup> The *Divisor* probably superintended the delicate operation of *parting*, or separating, gold from silver, after their refining from the imperfect metals by lead. This is effected in different ways:—

1st,—There is *parting* by *nitrous acid*. The silver must be three fourths, or the gold would guard it from the action of the acid. How much silver is to be added to *quart* the gold, *i.e.* reduce it to one-fourth, is ascertained by graduated *proof needles*. As the silver dissolves, the *aqua fortis* is renewed, and must be *boiled* even a third time. The *gold of parting* is washed in boiling water. The silver is recovered by distillation, or precipitation by copper; this is *parted silver*.

2nd,—If the gold in the mass exceed the silver, it may be *parted* by *aqua regia*. Here the gold is dissolved, and not the silver; this method is said to be imperfect, and not much practised.

3rd,—There is *parting* by *cementation*, when the quantity of gold in the mass is too great for the first method. The cement is two-thirds powdered bricks, one-sixth calcined vitriol, one-sixth common salt, or nitre. The crucible is put into a furnace, or oven, and the heat moderately red, for twenty-four hours. The marine acid, disengaged in a state of vapour, dissolves the silver alloy. The gold is not melted, but carefully separated from the cement, and *boiled* several times in pure water. Hence the Greek term *boiled*, for *pure*, gold.

4th,—There is *dry parting*, by fusion with sulphur, when the silver is in excess. The sulphur scorifies the silver. From the granulated mass a part is reserved, and dropped into the sulphurated, and stirred with a wooden rod; it carries down with it the gold.

Of silver from lead mines, it is said that half a grain of gold from one hundredweight pays for collecting.

that "the earth of Pæonia," a district of Macedonia,<sup>3</sup> "was so full of gold, that many persons had found lumps of more than a mina in weight." "Two of them, unusually large, had been taken to the king, and stood on his table, near him, that he might, from them, auspicate his banquet."—(*De Mirab.* c. 45 & 46.)

Agatharcides, (A.C. 164,) who describes fully the other modes of obtaining gold, speaks of "pieces found in the native state, and called by the Greeks *apyron*," i.e. unwrought by fire: the word is of common occurrence. Strabo and Diodorus, Basil and Theodoret, (on Isaiah xiii. 12,) also mention this kind of gold. Lucretius, in the Fifth Book of his Philosophical Poem, attributes the first discovery of gold to the accidental burning down of forests, either fired by lightning, or by man when clearing for a fresh settlement, "before the meshes of nets, or the breaking in dogs for the chase, were either of them understood." These also were *additional* sources of supply. Is it not improbable that the exact correspondence of the shining mass with the hollow mould into which it had casually fallen, may have first suggested its ready adaption to human use or ornament, by the aid of fire?<sup>4</sup> Volcanoes, earthquakes, or the abrasion of the soil by swollen torrents, *may* have led to the first discovery of metals. It seems obvious that those which did not need artificial refining, like virgin gold, would be first wrought.

The Epicurean figment, that the original state of man

<sup>3</sup> It is worth while to bear in mind that the forms and devices of the coins of the Macedonian kings were imitated in the early British coins, as is shown by Mr. Wright, in his *Celt, Roman and Saxon*, p. 84; for this two reasons may be assigned,—the great numbers of Macedonian coins current through Europe, (like dollars in modern times,) owing to the abundance of gold from their mines; and, next, the probability that the introduction into Britain of metallurgy is due to Greek founders. Philippi owed its wealth to its gold mines, which led the Macedonian king to give his name to it.

<sup>4</sup> "Simili formata videbant esse figurâ,  
Atque lacunarum fuerant vestigia cuique,  
Tum penetrabat eos, posse hæc liquefacta calore,  
Quamlibet in formam, et faciem decurrere rerum."

*Lucretius*, lib. v.

was the brutal, is still widely circulated, and plausibly maintained.<sup>5</sup> It is therefore difficult to realize to ourselves the highly finished workmanship of very early ages. Scepticism, under the vizard of the critic, batters even "the shield of Achilles," a conception worthy of the greatest of poets, and discredits the generosity of Polybus, the Egyptian king, and his wife, Alcandra, because Menelaus is said to have received from him silver bathing vessels, and golden tripods, and talents, whilst Helen had a golden distaff, with its silver flask mounted in gold. (*Odyssey*, iv. 131.) Incredulity, however, is not often the genuine fruit of erudition. At a period anterior to the first recorded voyage on the Euxine Sea, undertaken in pursuit of gold, we read of its lavish employment. It is more than fifty times mentioned in the Book of Exodus. Not only "chains, rings, ouches, taches, bells, crowns," were made of it, and the open chased work of the table of the shew bread, but the mysterious figures of the bending cherubim, and "the seven-branched candlestick of beaten gold," had shown that primæval art could convey sublime impressions, or imitate with refined taste the graceful contours of branches, and fruit, and flowers. —(*Exodus*, xxv. 31.)<sup>6</sup>

II.—We have seen that the "unmixed gold," which

<sup>5</sup> The argument from the more systematic and complicated structure of some of the earliest languages seems to me to tell strongly against the hypothesis of an aboriginal state of barbarism; it appears to have resulted from decadence.

<sup>6</sup> The professed object of the expedition of the Argonauts was gold, and, "perhaps the accounts given by Strabo and Appian may be the most probable of any, which state it to be a practice of the Colchians to extend fleeces of wool across the beds of the torrents that fall from Mount Caucasus, and by means of them to entangle the particles of gold which were washed down by the stream."—(Falconer on the *Commerce of the Euxine*. Oxford. 1805.) At the Chremnitz Works, in Hungary, sheepskins were placed in the mountain streams, and in the water from the washings, to detain the metallic particles. These skins are carefully washed, and the sediment worked with quicksilver into a paste. The quicksilver is driven off by fire, and the gold, which is spongy, remelted.—(See G. Agricola, *De Re Metallica*. 1657.)

scarcely needed fusion, would be the first picked up and used. We will now examine the accounts of the more operose methods of obtaining it, which will be found almost identical with those of our Australian emigrants in the present day. Our survey must be confined chiefly to the European methods of obtaining this metal, borrowed, doubtless, from the other two continents.

Diodorus Siculus, in the Fifth Book of his *Historical Library*, c. 27, says,—

“Although silver is not found in Gaul, yet gold abounds, for nature supplies it without the toil and trouble of smelting. For the windings of the rivers,<sup>7</sup> with many nooks and elbows, causing them to strike against the banks at the feet of the neighbouring mountains, break off large heaps of earth full of particles of gold. These the gold seekers collect, and grind and pound the lumps containing gold dust. Next, washing out the earthy matter with the waters, they hand it over for fusion in the stoves. In this way they amass much gold, and employ it for ornament, not only the women, but the men also.<sup>8</sup> For round their wrists and arms they wear bracelets and armlets, and round their necks massive collars of fine gold, and they have, also, very handsome finger rings, and, moreover, golden corslets.”

<sup>7</sup> M. Reaumur, in his *Memoir*, enumerates ten rivers in France which yield gold, namely,—the Rhine, the Rhone, the Doux, the Céze, and the Gardon; the Arriege, the Garonne; the Ferriet, and Benagues, tributaries of the Arriege; lastly, the Salat, from the Pyrenees. The Céze, from the Cevennes, yields most; the Arriege the purest; all contain alloy, generally silver. (See, also, the President de Goguet's *Origin of Lams, Arts, &c.*, i. book 2, c. 4.)

<sup>8</sup> To the numerous instances of the discovery of *torcs* may be added that of one of fine gold, exhibited at Swansea, in 1834. It weighed seven ounces and a half, and was said to have been found on the borders of Breconshire. Many years before this, a helmet of thin gold plates, enamelled, was dug up by some quarrymen, near Old Castle, ar Alam, (Bridgend,) and broken to pieces. It was like the copper helmet since found near Painswick, and seemed to have been partly covered with hide; a sketch was taken of it. Gold plates, bracelets, armlets and collars have been discovered in barrows in North Wales, in Ireland, and near Quentin, in Brittany.—(See Sir R. Colt Hoare, Mr. J. Y. Akerman's *Index*.) On the gold corslet found near Mold, see *Archæologia Cambrensis*, iii. First Series, p. 98. On the sign of a Roman goldsmith, at Old Malton, see *The Celt, Roman, and Saxon*, p. 247.

The historian then notices the scrupulous honesty with which the abundant gold dedicated to their gods, in consecrated shrines and temples, was regarded:—"No one," he says, "touches it, although the Celts are excessively fond of money, from a reverential feeling." Hence the pilfered "gold of Toulouse" became proverbial.<sup>9</sup> From the silence of Julius Cæsar, and on the authority of Cicero's Letters, it has been inferred that, when Britain was first invaded by the Romans, it was not known to afford gold; but it must be remembered that Cæsar did not penetrate beyond the plains. He saw no rivers in whose detritus gold could be found, like those in Gaul which flow from the Cevennes and the Pyrenees. We must not, however, ignore the direct evidence of Strabo, some fifty years later:—"Britain" as he expressly asserts, in his Fourth Book (c. 5) "produces *gold*, and silver, and iron;" nor the testimony of the well-informed Tacitus, after the expedition of Claudius had made our island better known. The biographer of Agricola distinctly states, that "Britain produces silver, and *gold*, and other metals, to reward its conquerors." "*Fert Britannia aurum, et argentum, et alia metalla, pretium victoriæ.*"—(*Vit. Agricolæ*, c. x.) It is not likely that a people who had long been expert enough to smelt tin, and export it to the Mediterranean, would overlook native gold; nor that the Romans, if they had obtained better information as to the productions of remote Britain, would be unwilling to revisit it when it had become a more valuable prize.

The simple processes described by Diodorus are very

<sup>9</sup> A. Gellius (book iii. c. 9) and Justin (book xxxii. c. 3) mention the sacrilege of the consul Cæpio, and his subsequent calamities. Strabo cites Timagenes as his authority for it, and states that the large quantities of bullion at Toulouse were said to have come from the plunder of Delphi.—(*Lib.* iv. c. 1-13.) He attributes the 15000 talents to the abundance of the gold in the neighbouring region, and the superstition of the inhabitants. Those who contracted with the Romans for the spoil in the sacred ponds, found grinding mills made of silver, so rich and venerated was the shrine.



similar to those at the "bars" and "placers" of the Sacramento, the San Joaquin, and the Colorado, with their numerous forks and branches, in California, to which, in our own time, the rush has been so great, till the discovery of the New South Wales and Victoria fields.<sup>1</sup>

H. HEY KNIGHT.

(To be continued.)

<sup>1</sup> The first rough judgment of gold is formed from its colour on the touchstone. In the middle ages the usual test was by combustion,—*arsurâ*. This seems to have been similar to the *ad obryssam* of the Romans. "*Auri experimento ignis est, ut simili colore rubeat, quo ignis, atque ipsum obryssam vocant.*"—(Pliny, xxxiii. 19.) "To try the purity of gold, we observe whether, after being exposed to the fire, it becomes red, and glows like the fire itself; this process is called the *test*,"—*obryssa*. On the derivation of this word much has been written, as on most uncertainties. The Greek verb for bubbling forth (*βρω*) seems to me the most probable, as it is a monetary term. Like *arsura*, it came to be employed for the loss on money below standard fineness. In the *arsura*, a pound was said to *burn* so many pence as it was deficient. When Henry I., being often out of England, commuted his revenues (from board-land, &c.) into pecuniary rents, the Bishop of Salisbury, then presiding at the Exchequer, found, when paid in *tale and weight*, that the treasury was still *minus*,—copper, from the number of mints throughout the kingdom, having usurped the place and name of silver. A council determined that the specie should be tested, sixpence in the pound being allowed on the weight. Before this, in Doomsday Book, we find payments entered as right in *tale* only, or in *weight* only, or in both, or in standard fineness also. Valentinus and Valens did the same thing long before, directing that payments should not be made in the gross, but after proof, "*diu multumque flammæ edacis examine detinetur quemadmodum pura videatur.*"—(L. iii. C. Th. *De Ponderib.*) Symmachus, (Book x. Epist. 21,) "the master of windy eloquence," as his eulogistic adversary, Prudentius, terms him, (*Præfat*, lib. ii.,)

"Exultat, fremit, intonat,  
Ventisque eloquii tumet,"

praises Gratian for giving up the loss on provincial gold, *aurum provinciale*. This "Benevolence" having been gradually made compulsory, the increment on money which had been actually coined at the imperial mint, was felt to be oppressive. In Scripture, the trial of faith is compared to this *obryssa*.—(1 Peter, i. 7.)

# NOTICES OF THE EARLY INSCRIBED AND SCULPTURED STONES OF WALES.

(Continued from page 52.)

ON referring to my last article on the subject of the "Early Inscribed and Sculptured Stones of Wales," a description will be found of a stone lately discovered whilst Llanfrynach Church was in course of being rebuilt, below the surface, beneath the door leading to the chancel from the vestry. I am now enabled to offer to the notice of the members of the Association a figure of this very curious stone. As it is fully described at page 52, I have only occasion further to remark that the double knot in the ribbon work at either end of the large cross is not so regularly interlaced as in the older carved stones; neither is the pattern of the interlacing beneath the feet of the uprising human figure so regular and symmetrical as usual; on the left side, also, the pattern is eked out by a waved line parallel with the outer edge of the ribbon itself,—a peculiarity which I have not elsewhere seen. The larger cross is peculiar in its shape, with four impressions opposite the origin of the arms, where the inner angles are cut off. At the foot of the stone are also two delineations of the ornament termed a *triquetra*, accompanied by a rude figure of a bird.

As the *triquetra* has been affirmed to have been used as a symbol of the Trinity, and as the bird may possibly have been intended as the symbol of the Holy Spirit, is it possible that the larger *triquetra* may have been here used as a symbol of the Father, and the smaller one of the Son?

The figure on the right hand side of the accompanying wood-cut represents the reverse of the stone, with the inscription *ioh̄r*; and the figure on the left hand side the fragment found at the same time as the larger stone, and also described at page 52.

The second of the accompanying illustrations represents three Roman inscriptions, for rubbings of which I am in-



debted to the kindness of W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., M.P. The larger stone was brought from Tomen y Môr, (Heriri Mons,) and is now built up into the terrace wall at Tany-bwlch Hall, in Merioneth. It measures 20 inches by 12 inches, the letters being rather more than 2 inches in height. The other figures represent two stones also brought from Heriri Mons, and now preserved in Miss Roberts' garden, at Maentwrog. One stone measures 12 inches by 10 inches, the letters being 2 inches in height; and the other fragment measures about 15 inches in length, the letters being about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height. This last must have been a fine inscription, the letters being beautifully shaped capitals, finely cut; those of the larger figure are more carelessly formed; whilst those on the second stone have more of the *rustic* character in the tall and narrow form of the letters, and the very short top and bottom cross strokes of the E, as well as the peculiar form of the R.

Being little versed in Roman inscriptions, at the suggestion of the Chairman of our Committee, C. C. Babington, Esq., I forwarded a sketch of these stones to the Rev. Dr. J. Collingwood Bruce, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, the distinguished author of the recently published work on the *Great Roman Wall in the North of England*, who has kindly furnished me with the following observations upon them:—

“I am interested in the inscriptions which you have sent me for this reason:—On the Antonine Wall numerous slabs are found, ascribing the erection of so much of that structure to such a cohort or legion; such, however, is not the case in the English Wall. Lately, however, I have noticed some stones such as you have sent me sketches of, but the point which puzzled me was the small number of paces noted. I now take courage, but am inclined to think that the paces of work done applies rather to the wall of the station, including perhaps a certain amount of the garrison buildings inside, than to the great barrier wall. I shall be much obliged by your giving all the information you possess, or can acquire, respecting these stones;—where were they found?

“Unhappily some of the centurions who have carved these

stones have thought themselves such very great men as not to have considered it requisite to give their names in full. The uppermost stone I would read,—

> AND

PXXXIX

i. e. Centuria And.— passus triginta novem,

indicating that the century had done the amount of work speci



UTTING St.

W del.

fied. It is impossible, unless other stones have been found in the same locality with the name in full, to say whether the centurion's name was Andronicus, Andrianus, or Andervus, &c., &c.

> IVLI  
MANS

i. e. Centuria Julii Mans(uetii? or Mansini?)

I at one time thought that the last line was meant for *manibus suis*, but I now see this will not do.

"The second stone is inscribed,—

>> PERPE  
TVI  
PXX

i. e. Centuria Perpetui passus viginti.

"There is in this stone something like a double centurial mark; probably the additional mark is only accidental.<sup>1</sup>

"I suspect nothing can be made out of the small fragment of the slab containing the letters PRc. They may, however, be part of the word Proprætores."

Probably some of our members will be able to trace out the precise locality whence these stones were obtained, so as to throw some additional light on the interesting question raised by Dr. Bruce.

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The third of the accompanying engravings represents two Romano-British inscriptions, for rubbings of which I am indebted to our Editor.

The upper of these two figures represents a stone about 12 inches high by 14 inches wide, built into the churchyard wall, at the right hand of the western entrance, at Llandyssul, near Newcastle-Emlyn, Cardiganshire. The letters are rudely cut, varying from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches to 4 inches in height; they are Roman capitals, of a debased form, with a single minuscule *h* in the third line; the two letters FI, at the beginning of the second line, exhibit the ordinary conjoined form; the whole inscription is to be read,—

<sup>1</sup> The first centurial mark is rather straighter and thinner than is represented in the accompanying woodcut.—J. O. W.



VELVOP  
KILIA  
BRONO



CVLIDORI  
IACIT  
ETOR VVITE  
MIVLIEIR  
SEC VNDI



VELVOR  
FILIA  
BROHO

i. e. Velvor the daughter of Broho.

Is it possible that a portion of the stone at the right hand side of the inscription has been broken off, and that the names both of daughter and father are not here found in their entirety?<sup>2</sup> Some of our members, versed in the names of the early heroes and heroines of Wales, may possibly recognize the two here given, and thus be enabled to solve the difficulty.

The stone has already been engraved by Meyrick in his *History of Cardiganshire*, pl. iv. fig. 1, but not correctly, and the reading there given is VELVOR HLIM BRCHO, the conjoined FI in the second line having been mistaken for a h, and the A, with its angulated cross stroke, having been considered as a M, the O, also, in the middle of the third line having been mistaken for C, although its round form is quite clear.

The lower of these two stones is from Llangefni, in Anglesey, being a small upright stone of schistose breccia, (common as boulders in that part of the island,) standing in the church-yard, at the south-east side of the church. It has been already noticed and engraved, but not with sufficient correctness, in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, First Series, ii. pp. 42, 43. It is said to have been found in 1824, on taking down the old church.

The stone measures 4 feet 3 inches high, and 18 inches wide, with the inscription at its upper end, above which is a double line, inclosing a series of VVVV like marks as an ornament. The inscription is very rudely carved, and the letters very irregular in size, varying from  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in height. They are all rude Roman capitals, and are to be read thus,—

<sup>2</sup> The name Brohonagli, on the Brochmael stone, at Pentrevoelas Hall, has suggested the above observation.

CVLIDORI  
IACIT  
ET ORVVITE  
MYLIER  
SECVNDI

i. e. (the body of) Culidorus lies here, & Orvvite the wife of Secundus.

I have already had occasion to notice the interesting circumstance of several of these early stones being commemorative of females, and may be allowed to remark that the two now before us offer additional evidence of the pains taken by our Romano-British ancestors to commemorate their deceased female relatives.

Hammersmith, February, 1856.

J. O. WESTWOOD.

## RECORDS OF THE LORDSHIP OF DYFFRYN CLWYD AND RUTHIN CASTLE.

### No. II.

*Copy of a Letter of James I. to the Aldermen of Ruthin.*

JAMES R.

By the King.

Trusty and well beloved we greet you well. Whereas by our letter and our signet bearing date at Westminster the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May in the second year of our reign of England, France and Ireland and of Scotland this seven and thirtieth, we have strictly charged our Steward and Recorder of our Lordship of Ruthin, alias Dyffryn Clwyd in our county of Denbigh carefully to preserve and maintain all the ancient customs liberties privileges and jurisdictions of the same our Lordship in as large and ample a manner as they were kept in the Reign of our Progenitors and Predecessors and signified our further pleasure that all other officers and ministers in those parts should be ready, when they were called to give their assistance to the aforesaid officers, for as much as it appeareth likewise by ancient Charters and namely by one of our most famous and most noble progenitors King Henry the Seventh that this town of Ruthin is an ancient free Boro' town unto which it pleased the said king to grant divers freedoms and privileges. We let you know that we do thereby approve and ratify the same, but do also require you the Aldermen, being, as we understand the principal

officers of our said Town carefully and duly to keep and observe those same liberties and priviledges, and that within the said premisses and liberties of that town, ye and no other, take upon you the governance and ordering of all matters that concern the peace, and the good ruling of our subjects the Burgesses and inhabitants of Ruthin, and of all Causes happening within the same being of such kind, as wherein ye have heretofore used to deal agreeable to your priviledges, willing and commanding you hereby to cause this our pleasure to be notified, unto such our officers there, to whom it may appertain, and that upon knowledge thereof they may forbear to intermeddle therein upon pain of our displeasure, and these our letters shall be sufficient warrant in this behalf. Given under our signet at our Maner of Greenwich this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year 1606.

WINDEBANK,

The Lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd, as appears by the petition of the freeholders and inhabitants, vol. i. p. 43 of this Series of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, was in the hands of the Countess of Warwick, in the year 1574; after whom, it appears to have come into the possession of the Crown, and to have continued therein until the year 1633, when it was expected that a grant of it was about to be made, if not already made, to Sir Francis Crane, Chancellor of the Order of the Garter. This appears from a copy of the following warrant, in the possession of F. R. West, Esq., M.P., who has kindly allowed it, with other documents, to be transcribed for the pages of this Journal:—

At Ruthin the ixth of May in the yeare of the reyne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles of England, Scotland, Ffraunce and Ireland, Kinge &c: the ninth 1633.

Wee the tenants and inhabitants of the Lopp. (Lordship) of Dyffryn Clwyd with the towne of Ruthin whose names are underwritten do intreate noiate (nominate) and authorize W<sup>m</sup> Salesbury, Simon Thelwall, John Thelwall and Thomas Wynne Esquiers, to treat, deale, and compound with Sir Ffrauncis Crane Kn<sup>t</sup> Chauncellor of the most noble order of the Garter or with any other person or personnes that hath or shall have the graunt of the said Lopp: for the fee farme thereof to and for the respective uses of us for such some or somes of money as they the said Willm Salesbury, Simon Thelwall, John Thelwall and Thomas Wynne Esquiers shall think fit so as they for their owne lands shall be contented to beare a proportionate part thereof,

and we further authorize the said Willm Salesbury, Simon Thelwall, John Thelwall and Thomas Wynne Esquiers in case the same may not be had or procured from him or them, or that there be not a graunt already passed that then the said William Salesbury, Simon Thelwall, John Thelwall and Thomas Wynne Esquiers for and on the behalfe of us as of themselves shall petition to his Ma<sup>tie</sup> or use such other meanes for the optayninge of the fee farme of the said Lordship, which they in their discretions shall think meete and expedient, givinge and grauntinge unto the said Willm Salesbury, Simon Thelwall John Thelwall and Thomas Wynne Esquiers fulle power and authority to do and performe any act, thinge or thinges in manner aforesaid and hereby we bind ourselves to stand, abide, fulfill and performe whatsoever they the said Willm Salesbury, Simon Thelwall, John Thelwall and Thomas Wynne Esquier shall do and performe as afforesaid, according to the same meaninge hereof—in witness whereof we have herewith put our hands the day and year above written—

This is endorsed "A coppie of the warrant given by the freeholders of Ruthin *land* (?) to Will<sup>m</sup> Salesbury, Symon Thelwall, John Thelwall and Tho<sup>s</sup> Wynne Esquiers to deale for them about the Lordshippe

"dat: 9. May. 1633."

The original warrant was probably signed by the various freeholders, although the copy does not contain the signatures.

It appears that soon after this date, the Lordship was sold by Charles I. to Sir Francis Crane, Knight, and Richard his brother, with the reservation however of the chief rents, for which the annual rent of £243 8s. 2½d. was paid.

From the thirty-fifth part of the letters patent, 10 Charles I., 1634, 5, we learn that, for the sum of £4,000 paid by Sir Francis Crane, Knight of the Garter, and principal Privy Councillor, and in consideration of the yearly rent as therein specified, were conveyed the Lordship and Lordships of Dyffryn Clwyd, with the town of Ruthin, in the county of Denbigh, with all rights, appurtenances, lordships, manors, commotes, lands, tenements, rents, services, and hereditaments, with the towns of Ruthin, Dogfeilin, Llanarth, Collion, rents of assizes, rents of the freemen of Wales, rents of copyhold tenants, rents of natives, and rents called twenty

pounds, and other rents of the said Lordship, with perquisite and profits of Court, said to be in the whole of the yearly value of £243 8s. 2½d.; except the reprints, said to have been parcel of the possessions of the late Earl of Kent, and to have come into the king's hand on the death of Ambrose, Earl of Warwick, and Ann his wife, (see *Archæologia Cambrensis*, i. Third Series,) without heirs; which said Lordship, with the town of Ruthin, &c., &c., or the greater part thereof, (as appeareth by indenture, dated the 20th of June, preceding these presents, by Thomas Viscount Savage, Secretary; Francis Lord Cottington, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Francis Crane, Knight; Sir Thomas Trevor, Knight, one of the Barons of the Exchequer; Sir Walter Pye, Knight, Attorney of the Court of Wards; Sir John Banks, Knight, Attorney-General to the King's son, Prince Charles,) was granted to Sir Edward Baeshe, of Stanstead, in Herefordshire, and John Beauchamp, of London, Gentleman, at a yearly rent of £243 8s. 2½d., for the residue of a lease of ninety-nine years, which had been granted to Sir Thomas Trevor, and others, then deceased. This grant to Sir Edward Baeshe and John Beauchamp, King Charles confirms. By the same presents, the king grants to Sir Richard Crane, and Richard Crane, all the messuages, lands, tenements, rents, services, court-leet, view of frankpledges, sheriffs' turn, hundred court, court of record, cognizance of pleas and complaints, to hold pleas of all lands, tenements, hereditaments, debts, trespasses, contracts, all goods and chattels waived, strays, chattels of felons, and fugitives, and *felos de se*, persons put in exigent, deodands, wrecks of the sea, natives and villians with their sequels, fairs, wakes, markets, toll, customs, tollage, piccage, privileges, and emoluments of whatsoever kind, also all reversions, remainders, all manner of woods, with the ground and soil of the said woods, with full power and authority to appoint stewards, recorder, and other officers, (with the sole exception of the coroner,) as many as the Earls of Kent may have customarily appointed.

The exceptions to this grant are,—1.—A certain

house called the Pendist, within the town of Ruthin, where the assizes and sessions are held, and other meeting-places used for the king's service. 2.—Certain demesne lands within the town of Ruthin, of the yearly rent of £9 11s. 4d. 3.—The park of the said town of Ruthin, and £12 reserved thereof. 4.—Certain lands in Cyffylliog, of the yearly value of £9 0s. 5d. 5.—Lands in Efenechtyd, called Tir-gwyllym, the rent of which is 4s. 8d. 6.—Plas Bennet, and reserved rent of 8d. 7.—Garthweeke, in the Commot of Collion, and the reserved rent of 2s. 6d. 8.—The mills called the Moor-Mills, and reserved rent of 2s.; a fuller's mill in Llanarthe, and rent of 24s.; Melin Vaughan, and rent of 20s.; Melin Eyne, and rent of 30s. 4d.; the mill called Bryncherdite, and the rent of 13s. 4d. 9.—The site of the castle of Ruthin, and the rent thereof, 10s. 10.—All patronage of churches, &c. 11.—All knights' fees of wards, and marriages. 12.—All mines of gold and silver, and *lez*, (*query*, lead?) with other royal prerogatives of mines, &c.

This grant was to be held as of the king's manor in Greenwich, by fealty only in free and common socage, not in chief, or by knight service.

On the expiration of the lease granted to Edward Baeshe and John Beachamp, the reserved rent of £243 8s. 2½d., up to that time paid by them, is to be paid by Sir Francis Crane, and his brother Richard, at Michaelmas and Lady-day, under a penalty of £10 for every forty days of arrears.

Certain annual charges are moreover reserved, having been previously granted to individuals, such as £20 to John Thelwall, Esquire, steward of the Lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd, with the town of Ruthin; £4 11s. to Edward Thelwall, the recorder of the Lordship; and £13 16s. 8d. to one Northwall, the king's receiver of the rents, &c., of the Lordship; as well as all other grants which may have been given to individuals by letters patent. Dated November 7.

E. L. B.

## OFFA'S DYKE.

## No. II.

SINCE the publication of the previous paper on this subject, accident placed in my hands a copy of Mr. Hartshorne's *Salopia Antiqua*, a work with which, I am ashamed to confess, I had till then been unacquainted. To my great regret, I found that its learned author had treated of Offa's Dyke most ably, and most fully,—so much so, that a great portion of my own paper had been entirely anticipated by many years. It is surprising that no member of our Association should have been aware of this, and have pointed out to me that I was going over ground which had been so well trodden. I should never have presumed to treat of a subject which had already passed through Mr. Hartshorne's hands, though I might have aspired to add a few notes. Had Mr. Hartshorne been present at the Llandeilo Meeting, this impertinent intrusion of mine on the attention of members, and on the pages of the Journal, would have been prevented.

I owe a similar apology to Dr. Ormerod; for, when allowed to read my paper at Llandeilo, I was not in the least aware that so careful and scientific an observer had already examined the whole extent of the Dyke, and was infinitely better acquainted with its history and actual condition than I could have any pretension to be.

The only additions of importance that have been made to Mr. Hartshorne's description of this great work have been the more accurate determination of the northern and southern terminations, by Dr. Ormerod and myself; and by the opening of the question concerning Wat's Dyke, and the uncertain portions of Offa's Dyke, in Flintshire.

Two of our most learned and active members have, however, with their habitual courtesy, come forward simultaneously, and have communicated to me the extracts from the "*Brut y Saeson*" and the "*Brut y Tywysogion*" which relate to the Dykes.



The Rev. Robert Williams, and the Rev. John Williams Ab Ithel, have both written to me, within a post of each other, and have furnished me with the following quotations, from the copies of each "Brut" contained in the *Myvyrian Archaiology*:—

*Brut y Saeson.*

"Dcclxxxiiij.—Yr haf y difeithws y Cymre cyvoeth Offa, ac yna y peris Offa gwneuthur clawd yn dervyn ryingthaw a Chymre val y bei haws ydaw gwrthnebu y ruthyr y elynion, a hwnnw a elwir yn glawd Offa yr hynny hyd hedyw."

*Brut y Tywysogion.*

"Oed Crist 765, y diffeithiwyd Tiroedd y Mers gan y Cymry ac y gorfuant ar y Saeson, ac ai hyspeillasant yn ddirfawr, achaws hynny y gwnaeth Offa Brenin y Mers y Clawdd mawr a elwir Clawdd mawr a elwir Clawdd Offa yn derfynfa rhwng gwlad Gymru ar Mers, fal y mae fyth yn parhau."

"Oed Crist 776, y codes Gwyr Gwent a Morganwg ac a aethant am benn y Mers, ac y torrasant Glawdd Offa yn gydwasted a'r ddaear, a gwedi hynny dychwelyd ag yspail fawr."

"Oed Crist 784, y diffeithiwyd y Mers gan y Cymry, ac Offa a wnaeth Glawdd yr ail waith yn nes attaw, a gadael lle Gwlad rwng Gwya Hafren lle mae llwyth Elystan Glodrydd lle ydd aethant yn un o bum Brenhinllwyth Cymru."

*Brut y Saeson.*

"Dcclxxxiii.—In the summer the Cymry laid waste the dominions of Offa, whereupon Offa caused a dyke to be made as a boundary between him and Cymru, that it might be easier for him to withstand the incursions of his enemies; and the same was called Offa's Dyke from that time until now."—*Myv. Arch.* ii. 473, 474.

*Brut y Tywysogion.*

"Age of Christ 765, the lands of Mers (Mercia) were devastated by the Cymry, who defeated the Saxons, and plundered them excessively. Wherefore Offa, King of Mers, constructed the large dyke, called Offa's Dyke, to serve as a boundary between Cymru land and Mers, as it still exists."

"Age of Christ 776, the men of Gwent and Morganwg arose, attacked the men of Mers, and destroyed Offa's Dyke, levelling it with the ground, after which they returned with an immense plunder."

"Age of Christ 784, Mers was devastated by the Cymry, and Offa made a dyke a second time nearer to him, leaving a territorial space between Gwy and Hafren, (*Wye and the Severn*,) where is the tribe of Elystan Glodryd, that became one of the five royal tribes of the Cymry."—*Ibid.* p. 474.

Mr. Robert Williams goes on to observe:—

"In the older copy of 'Brut y Tywysogion' the chronology

runs in decades, and these are the only notices of Offa in it:—  
 'Deg mlynedd a thrugain a seith cant (770) y bu distryw y deheubarthwyr gan Offa vrenhin.' . . . . . 'Pedwar ugein mlynedd a seith cant (780) oed oet Crist pan diffeithawdd Offa vrenhin y Britanyeit yn amser haf. Deg mlynedd a phedwar ugein a seith cant (790) oed oet Crist—bu varw Offa vrenhin.'

"Price, in his *Hanes Cymru*, (p. 375,) considers Wat's Dyke to be Offa's second work."

Some of the above extracts had been partially alluded to by Mr. Hartshorne, who conjectures that it was Wat's Dyke which was broken down by the men of Gwent and Morganwg. I cannot coincide with this opinion, because it seems to me improbable that they should have penetrated, right through Powys, to the north-east portion of Gwynedd.

Mr. John Williams, agreeing with Price, conceives Wat's Dyke to be the second dyke erected by Offa; and, if this conjecture is correct, an entirely new light is thrown upon that part of the subject. Supposing that Mr. Williams is right, then we may infer that Offa's Dyke *did touch* on the sea at Basingwerk, (though it did not *end* there, for it certainly exists at Prestatyn, twelve miles beyond,) and that what was the second, or Wat's Dyke, (for the name of which Mr. Hartshorne offers the derivation "Gwaed Dyke," or Blood-dyke,) branched off near Caergwrle, and so continued to the marshes of the Severn, in Shropshire. This would certainly get rid of the difficulty attending the supposed disappearance of Offa's Dyke throughout a large portion of Flintshire, and would bear out the early assigning of the name of "Offa's Dyke" to the trench, which can be traced down to Basingwerk.

But all difficulties are not removed by this supposition; for, when the "Brut" states that the making of this second dyke caused a space to be left between the Wye and the Severn, it will evidently not apply to anything that touches on the Alun, the Dee, and the Ceiriog, rivers of North Wales.

Again, if this *second* dyke be the present "Offa's Dyke" anywhere south of Shropshire and Montgomeryshire, where are the traces of the *first* dyke in that part of

Wales? for we cannot suppose that it was entirely obliterated, though it might have been broken through, and destroyed, in part of its course.

The dates of each "Brut," and, therefore, their historical value, as compared with the documents quoted in No. I., must be determined, before their authority can influence the opinion of antiquaries.

The question as to the relative dates and origin of the two Dykes is still open; and no antiquaries are better able to discuss it than the four gentlemen whose names are mentioned above. It is to be hoped that they will give it their attentive consideration.

H. L. J.

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## HISTORY OF RADNORSHIRE.

BY THE LATE REV. JONATHAN WILLIAMS, M.A.

No. V.

(Continued from page 39.)

### NOTE ON THE ROMAN STATIONS AND ROADS.

#### REMARKS ON THE SITES OF ARICONIUM AND MAGNA CASTRA.

THE publication, in the Journal of the Cambrian Archæological Association of a paper, compiled many years ago, intended as a "History of Radnorshire," offers a subject which has been formerly one of much controversy, although now considered closed by the almost unanimous consent of modern antiquaries; and, had the learned author lived in the present day, it may not be too much to say that he, probably, would have joined in the concordat.

Diverse as have been the statements of older authors respecting the sites of the Roman stations of Ariconium and Magna Castra, there is good reason to adopt the opinion which now generally prevails, that they were situate within the confines of the county of Hereford, the former at Bury Hill, in the vicinity of the town of Ross, and the latter at Kenchester, about five miles west of the city of Hereford; and the proof is readily adduced.

The opponents of this theory have not denied that the Roman stations of Glevum and Gobannium were respectively situated at Gloucester and Abergavenny; and, taking this as a postulate, no very difficult problem is involved.

According to the Itinerary of Antoninus, the distance from Glevum to Ariconium was fifteen miles, and from Gobannium to Magna, twenty-two miles; and the same figures are quoted by the author of the "History of Radnorshire;" but his arguments in favour of the positions which he advocates appear to be based upon the supposition that the Roman mile was equal to one mile and a half English, although he admits that there is great uncertainty in the exact distance of the miles in the Itinerary, being in some cases more than one mile, and in many instances less, so that, he contends, little faith can be placed upon such contradictions.

In the absence of proof to the contrary, there seems no reason why the miles in the Itinerary may not be taken at the acknowledged length of one thousand paces, or five thousand feet, and the chief difficulty is removed. Now the writer states that the distance from Glevum to Ariconium was fifteen miles; but, as he calculated the Roman mile at one and a half English, Ariconium, he says, must have been twenty-two miles and a half from Glevum; whereas the *supposed* site (and which, it is contended, is the *exact* one) is only about twelve miles from Gloucester.

The same line of argument is pursued with respect to Magna, which the author admits to have been twenty-two miles from Gobannium; whereas he states that the distance from Kenchester to Abergavenny is only eighteen miles, instead of thirty-three.

The theory which is now generally adopted, as already stated, of the sites of these respective stations, is therefore borne out by the writer himself, whose error appears in not following the standard measure of the Roman mile, which clears up the difficulty raised against Bury Hill and Kenchester.

Should anyone gainsay the conclusion, it may be proper to sum up these remarks by putting the question as a very simple mathematical problem. Given two points, viz., Glevum at Gloucester, and Gobannium at Abergavenny, as admitted, what other places, at the distances quoted, correspond with Ariconium and Magna? Or, in another way, what Roman stations in like manner lay claim to Bury Hill and Kenchester, which present undoubted evidence of having been occupied by an imperial people?

J. DAVIES.

#### Section 7.—*Offa's Dyke.*

The description of this astonishing, but useless, labour, participating neither in the character of a camp, nor of a castle, naturally takes its place, as does the era of its construction, between the conclusion of the account of

the one class of antiquities and the commencement of that of the other. It is called, in the Welsh language, Clawdd Offa, and, in English, Offa's Dyke, because it was constructed in the reign and by the order A.D. 750. of Offa, the eleventh king of that part, or division, of the Saxon Heptarchy called Mercia, who was a most formidable enemy of Wales, and a violent abridger of the ancient limits of that Principality. It extends about one hundred miles in length, from Basingwerk, in Flintshire, to Chepstow, in Monmouthshire, and enters this county, on its north-eastern frontier, from the county of Salop. Skirting the west side of the town of Knighton, or Tref-y-Clawdd, it passes along the ridge of Frith Hill, leaving Jenkin Allis to the east; thence along Reeves' Hill, in a straight line from north to south, by Penllan and Gilfach, towards the west, having Norton village on the east, and Whitton and Lytton on the west; it then crosses the river Lug, at its junction with a mill stream, by a yew tree, to Maestrayloe and Discoed, leaving Beggar's Bush on the west, and also Ebnol Chapel, together with the Four Stones near the river Hindwell; it then continues its course, by Newcastle Camp, to Evenjobb Hill, and Bareland, and Burfâ Bank, and Lower Harpton, and Morgel Hill, where it assumes an eastern direction along the ridge of Rushock Hill, Sheepwalks, Kennel, and Golden Bank, near Eyewood; thence to Kinsham, and, crossing the Arrow at Lord's Mill, it runs in a parallel line with that river to Downfield; thence through Lyonshall Park, Heath and Pen-rhôs; it then crosses the turnpike road, and stretches on to Holme's Marsh, by the village on the east, whence the vestiges of it disappear.

In many of the places above mentioned, the remains of the Dyke are very visible, and form a monument of the unperishable nature of works constructed of earth. The sharpness of the contour of this Dyke is astonishing, and appears almost as fresh as if cut yesterday, excepting the edges, which are clothed with a fine verdure. The castles of this district, which were once deemed impregnable,

and frowned terror into their neighbourhood, and the stone walls that environed and fortified the town of New Radnor, have all crumbled into dust, and scarcely left a fragment to ascertain their site, while this Dyke, composed entirely of earth, remains to this day, in every place where the plough has not intruded, an undecaying monument of the labour of past ages.

On the original policy and intention of constructing this embankment, various writers have expressed various opinions. Some of the English historians have espoused the conjecture that the intention of it was to protect the kingdom of Mercia from the incursions of the Welsh. But how weak a barrier must a mud wall present to a ferocious and an intrepid people, whose animosity to the Mercians was inveterate, and whose indignation was kindled into fury by the rapacious and unprincipled invaders of their country! If, on the contrary, the Welsh were a spiritless and pusillanimous enemy, as, from the appearance of so weak a fortification, some modern wits have been led to infer, where could be the occasion for a protecting barrier at all? The true account of the matter seems to be this: after a violent contest of twenty years' continuance with the Mercian Offa, at the head of the whole Saxon Heptarchy, in which both parties experienced many reverses and defeats, a peace was concluded betwixt the hostile nations, and a new boundary line fixed, which the subjects of both concurred in forming. And, in order to induce the Welsh to submit quietly and peaceably to surrender the territories of which the fortune of war had despoiled them, their enemies engaged that this line should be the utmost limit—the *ne plus ultra*—of their encroachments, and confirmed this assurance by causing the bank to be thrown up on the east, as well as on the west, side of the trench, testifying thereby that the Dyke was hence to serve as a perpetual boundary, which neither of them should be permitted to transgress. This treaty, like all others of a similar nature, was observed with good faith no longer than the moment when the parties saw it convenient to violate its conditions.

By virtue of this line of demarcation, the town of Kington, the parish of Huntington, and a considerable portion of the adjacent territory, were included in Wales. The Dyke extended no farther than the river Wye, which afterwards constituted the boundary.

[*Note.*—We print this section without any commentary, and refer the reader to the articles on Offa's Dyke which are in the pages of this volume of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. The author's observations are of interest, chiefly as showing that he was aware of the Dyke being a line of territorial demarcation.—ED. ARCH. CAMB.]

#### *Section 8.—Castles.*

The Silures, in common with the Britons, constructed no castles from principle, and not from incapacity. They disdained to shelter themselves behind walls, and always evinced a strong aversion to confinement of any kind. Personally brave and intrepid, yet impatient of continued exertions, they preferred the immediate decision of the field, to the prolonged fluctuations of a siege. In this respect, they were imitated by the Welsh: and few, or no, castles were constructed in any part of Wales, prior to the invasion of the Romans, Saxons, and Normans.

The principal castles contained in this district, were the following:—1. New Radnor. 2. Payne's Castle. 3. Boughrhyd. 4. Colwen, or Maud's Castle. 5. Aberedwy. 6. Knighton. 7. Cnwclas. 8. Cefn-y-llys. 9. Cwmaron. 10. Moelienydd. 11. Duybod, or Tibboeth. 12. Rhayader.

In a field on the south side of the church-yard of Pencraig, or Old Radnor, from which it is separated by the road, is to be seen a circular piece of ground, surrounded by a deep moat, and called the Court-yard. Foundations of buildings have occasionally been dug up in this place, which seem to favour the general supposition of there having been a round tower constructed on this site, intended as well for defence as for imprisonment, agreeable to the practice of the Silures and Britons, who, on circular mounds of earth erected round towers, capable of containing twenty or thirty men. The name affords



sanction to the conjecture that there was holden a court of judicature, under the authority either of the Princes of Wales, to whom this part of the district once belonged, or of the ancient reguli of the district, or of the Lords of Radnor, or of the Lords Marchers; and perhaps under the control of all these four powers successively. Its contiguity to the church must have given additional solemnity to the administration of justice. The outward circular apartment was the audience hall and court of judicature; the oblong building was the chief's own retirement; around this principal building were others of various forms and dimensions.

1. *New Radnor Castle*.—It does not appear that any castles were constructed within this district before the Saxons had gotten a permanent footing in the eastern frontier of it. This event happened in the year

A.D. 1064.

1064, and was the consequence of Earl Harold's second irruption into South Wales; for his first had proved eminently unsuccessful, when that ill-fated and divided country was destitute of a head, or governor. This calamity, together with pieces of all-subduing gold scattered among the needy chieftains, was the means of facilitating the enterprize, and promoting the usurpations, of this ambitious and unprincipled peer, who seized the possession of the vale of Radnor; and, for its security, erected the castle of New Radnor, and garrisoned it with troops. Harold excelled in the art of war, and evinced his military judgment by selecting this advantageous situation for constructing a fortress, which should awe and bridle the adjacent country. It was built on an eminence, which, whilst it had an entire command of the town below, defended the opening of a narrow pass, or defile, that led into it between two hills from the west. This castle appears, from the delineation given of it in Speed's map, a copy of which is annexed, to have been a fortress of considerable strength, and to have consisted of an inner keep, and a base-court with semicircular towers at the flanks, or angles. The intrenchments that surrounded it are at this time almost entire. The outer

ward, called Baili glâs, or the green court, is still distinct from the inner one, or keep, and preserves its original form. The walls of the town had, it is said, four gates, obtending the four cardinal points of the compass: parts of them are still remaining. Their site, together with the moat, is very visible, especially on the west and south sides of the town. They rested upon rows of small Gothic arches. Near the western extremity of the parish, and about a mile from the town of New Radnor, is an intrenched dyke, which was continued from one extremity of the narrow vale to the other, and evidently constructed as an outwork for the purpose of guarding the defile, and securing the castle from a sudden *coup de main*.

No other castles were constructed within this district till subsequently to the year 1108, when the rapacious Normans, having undertaken its conquest, endeavoured to secure their lawless encroachments by bridling the country, and domineering over the natives by means of garrisoned fortresses.

A.D. 1130. 2. *Payne's Castle* was built about the year

1130, by Payne, a Norman follower of the conqueror of England, from whom it received its name. Its original extent, splendour and magnificence are unknown, there being neither history nor tradition left to assist the researches of the author, who spared no pains to collect the desired information of its history. His efforts totally failed in the quarter to which he was recommended. The remains of this castle exhibit at present a very inconsiderable and mean appearance. Its site is, indeed, discernible; and a few loose fragments of its external walls show that there formerly existed a building upon the spot.<sup>1</sup>

3. *Boughrhyd Castle* stood on the bank of the river

<sup>1</sup> Payne had a son, named Thomas, who left an only daughter and heiress, named Alice. She having married Henry, the third Earl of Lancaster, conveyed to that family this and all her other Welsh estates, which devolved to her from William de Londres, and Richard Seward, to whom she was related. He terminated his life in the Crusades.

Wye, and was built by Eineon Clyd, Lord of Elfael. On the site of it is recently erected a very elegant mansion and seat, by the late proprietor, Francis Foulke, Esq.

4. *Colwen Castle*, or *Maud's Castle*, is situated about four miles west of Payne's Castle, and stands on the Forest Farm, in the parish of Llansaintfread. It was built in the reign of King John, about the year 1216, by William de Braos, Lord of Brecknock, in honour of his wife, whose name was Maud de Saint Valeri, whence it received the name of Maud's Castle. Its other appellation was Colwen.

However celebrated may have been its ancient fame, and whoever were its possessors, few or none are the vestiges which bespeak its pristine splendour. There still exist, indeed, a deep moat, and a green grass plat, to point out the site on which this once frowning fortress stood, but its walls compose the materials with which a farm-house and out-buildings have been constructed.

5. On a narrow ridge contiguous to the junction of the rivers Edw and Wye, and about four hundred yards from the church, once stood the "Castle of Aberedw." At what time this fortress was constructed, and by what person, are points equally unknown. It is now in ruins. At a little distance is an elevated mount of earth, on which was constructed the keep, or tower. This castle did certainly belong to Llewelyn, the last Prince of Wales. There is also a cave, cut in the rock, about six feet square, having a very small entrance, called Llewelyn's Cave. It is said that this unfortunate prince was used to secrete himself in this cave, and thereby foil the pursuit of his enemies.

There was also in this neighbourhood another castle, or fortification, that belonged to this prince, the ruins of which are to be seen at a place called Llechrhyd, adjoining the road leading from Bualt to Rhayader, and at the distance of two miles from the former town, and contiguous to the river Wye. Its regular and

square form has induced some persons to ascribe its construction to the Romans, who used it for the purpose of securing a passage over that river. It is certain that it did belong to Llewelyn, who, in his last effort to save his country's independence, made it a post for preserving a communication with Cefn-y-bedd, on the bank of the Irfon, in Brecknockshire, and for facilitating his retreat into North Wales.

6. *Knighton Castle*.—This town was anciently fortified with a castle. The mount on which the keep stood is to be seen on the west end of the town; no other vestige of it remains; nor does there exist any clue to direct us through the labyrinth of obscurity in which it is involved, or introduce us to the knowledge of the person by whom, or of the time when, it was constructed. Probably, as the assailants of this part of the district came from the county of Salop, the castle of Knighton owes its origin to the family of the Arundels, or of the Fitz-Warrens, of Clun. There subsists to this day a close connection betwixt these two towns.

A.D. 1242. 7. *Cnwclás Castle* has long been so completely destroyed, as not to preserve the smallest vestige.

8. *Cefn-y-llys Castle* stood on a bank of the river Ieithon, and was almost surrounded by that river, excepting one narrow isthmus which communicates with the country. Strong by nature, and fortified by art, this fortress, before the invention and use of gunpowder and artillery, must have been impregnable; it being inaccessible on all sides, its north side only excepted, on which is a narrow defile, which a hundred men might defend against a thousand. Here was holden that tremendous court of justice, or rather of injustice, called the Lords Marchers' Court. From this appropriated use of the place, and from the etymology of the name, which signifies the "Ridge or Bank of the Court," Mr. Malkin is induced to think that there never existed a castle at Cefn-y-llys. This opinion militates against the concurring testimonies of tradition, and of printed

authorities. Nor does the etymology of the name controvert in the least the general allegation that there has been a castle at Cefn-y-llys; for, by the Lords Marchers, courts of justice were holden in castles; so that there appears no foundation for Mr. Malkin's singular opinion. The castle of Cefn-y-llys was built by a Lord Marcher, viz., by Ralph Mortimer, Earl of Wigmore, and Lord

A.D. 1242. of Moelienydd, in the year 1242, and continued in the possession of his family, with the exception of occasional interruptions by the Welsh Princes, and attainder for high treason and rebellion, till the reign of Henry VI., when Edmund, the last Earl of March, of the name of Mortimer, died. It then devolved to Richard, Earl of Cambridge, who married his only sister and heiress, and upon his attainder, and finally upon the accession of his eldest son to the throne, by the title of Edward IV., it became again vested in the Crown.

In a place called the Castle Garden was dug up, some years ago, a silver thumb ring. Many have supposed it to be the signet ring of one of the Princes of South Wales, who resided at Cefn-y-llys. The author ascribes it to a much earlier age. This curious relic is now in the possession of Mrs. Edwards, of Greenfields.

The same noble persons who constructed the castle of Cefn-y-llys, built also the

9. *Castle of Cwmaron*, on the bank of a river of that name. The site and moat are still visible, but not a fragment of the superstructure remains. The

10. *Castle of Moelienydd* is said to have been originally constructed by the Earl of Chester, after a sudden and successful irruption into Cantref Moelienydd. It was afterwards taken and destroyed by the natives, headed by their regulus, or lord.

11. *Duybod*, or *Tibboeth Castle*, is situated on a steep hill, called Crogen, on which, it is said, the refractory inhabitants endeavouring to recover the possessions of their forefathers,—in other words, exciting rebellion,—suffered execution. This hill impends over the river Ieithon, in

the parish of Llanano, and is about nine miles to the north-west of the town of Knighton. The existing remains of this mutilated fortress consist only of a confused heap of thick walls, and fragments of walls. The site, however, and a piece of the keep may be traced; the whole being surrounded by a deep moat. The obscurity of its history, excepting only its final demolition by Llewelyn ab Gruffudd, Prince of Wales, in the year 1260, is to be regretted. Neither record nor tradition respecting it exists. Perhaps it derived its name from a nobleman called Tibetot, a justiciary of South Wales, in the reign of Edward I., who is said to have possessed property in this vicinity. The situation of this castle is remarkably wild and elevated; it commands an extensive prospect, and the frowning aspect of its ruins may be discerned at a great distance. Naturally strong, and inaccessible on all sides but one, which was well defended by intrenchments that still remain visible, it might bid defiance to the most violent and repeated assaults.

12. *Rhayader Castle* was constructed in the year 1178, by Rhys ab Gruffudd, Prince of South Wales, for the purpose of checking and repelling the incursions of the Normans, who, having established themselves on the maritime coasts of Cardiganshire, and extending their encroachments into the interior, carried on a kind of desultory and murderous warfare against this vicinity. It stood on a nook of the river Wye, on the west and north-west sides of the town, at the extremity of a small common called Maesbach. Of the superstructure, no vestige at present remains; but the original foundation may be traced. The only entrance which preserves a communication with the castle, is a narrow space on the north-east, between two deep trenches cut out of an exceedingly hard and solid rock; the one of which leads to the river towards the north, the other inclines more to the east. Along the south foundation runs a foss, about sixteen feet deep and twelve wide, until it communicates with a steep precipice, at the summit of which flows a spring of excellent water, formerly used by the garrison,

and the bottom of which precipice is level with the bed of the river. These three trenches form the three sides of a quadrangle. At the bottom of the precipice was a barrow, or tommen, surrounded by a moat, where was erected the castle mill. The other tommen, or mount, on the opposite bank of the river, in a straight line from the castle, and excavated at top, has been noticed before, and is introduced here merely for the purpose of sub-joining a different conjecture of the original design of its formation; it being, in the opinion of some, nothing more than a mound of earth thrown up by the republican forces of the Protectorate, for the purpose of erecting a battery of cannon to demolish the walls of the castle. The tower, or citadel, stood in a direct line between the castle and the prison, now a Presbyterian meeting-house, overlooking the river, and guarding its ford. The adjacent mount still retains the name of Tower Hill.

Many other castles formerly existed within the district under consideration. These, in general, were of inferior note, and little deserve historic remembrance. There remains, however, one, which impartiality requires us to endeavour to rescue from oblivion. It was the opinion of Camden, that Vortigern terminated his life among the fastnesses contiguous to the town of Rhaiadrgwy, or Rhayader. This opinion, controverted by many, the result of the author's researches, during his progress through the county, seems in some measure to confirm. It is certain that Vortigern, who was Lord of Erging and Ewias, in Herefordshire, possessed large property in the lordship of Moelienydd, if he was not also its regulus. His Silurian, or British, name was Gwytherin. Now, there is a spot of ground in the lordship of Gwrthreinion, so called, it is supposed, after his name, within the cantref of Moelienydd, and in the parish of Llanbister, designated by the appellation of Nant Castell Gwytherin, or the Dingle of the Castle of Vortigern. This dingle is very lonesome and retired, and is situated near a place called Arthur's Marsh, not far from the source of the Prill, Nant Caermenin. In its neighbourhood is a row



of stones, or cairn, called Croes y Noddfa, that is, the Cross of Refuge. Combining all these circumstances together, we derive a strong probability that this solitary spot constituted the last retreat of this traitorous and wretched king.

*(To be continued.)*

### CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Special Committee appointed on August 30, 1855, to revise the existing Rules of the Association, and to report thereupon at the next General Meeting, beg leave to state that they have carefully considered the subject committed to them, and made several alterations and additions to the Rules. The subjoined "Laws of the Cambrian Archæological Association" are recommended by the Committee for adoption at the Annual General Meeting, intended to be held at Welshpool, in 1856.

(Signed) CHARLES C. BABINGTON,  
T. O. MORGAN,  
W. REES.

March 5, 1856.

### LAWS OF THE CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

#### *Of Members and their Election.*

I.—The Association shall consist of Subscribing and Corresponding Members.

II.—All Members shall be admitted by the General Secretaries, on the proposal of one of the Local Secretaries, or of any two Members, subject to the approval of the Committee at the Annual Meeting.

#### *Of the Government of the Association.*

III.—The Government of the Association shall be vested in a Committee consisting of a President, with all who have held that office in previous years, the Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, the General and Local Secretaries, the Editorial Sub-Committee, the Chairman of the Committee, and twelve, or not more than fifteen, ordinary Subscribing Members, three of whom retire annually according to seniority.

IV.—The President shall hold office for one year, and shall be re-eligible.

V.—The election for the ensuing year of the President, Vice-Presidents, other Officers of the Association, and ordinary Members of the Committee shall be made on any day, except the first of the Annual Meeting, by the Subscribing Members of the Association. The Committee shall recommend Members to fill up the vacancies. Any Subscribing Member of the Association is at liberty to propose any other persons in place of those recommended by the Committee. Notice shall be given on the Programme of the Annual Meeting of the day and hour at which it is proposed that these elections should take place.

VI.—The Chairman of the Committee shall preside at all meetings of that body in the absence of the President; shall superintend the business of the Association during the intervals between the Annual Meetings; shall have power, with the concurrence of one of the Secretaries, to authorize proceedings not specially provided for by the Laws, if necessity for so doing should arise: a report of his proceedings in these respects to be annually laid before the Committee for their approval, or disapproval.

VII.—The Editorial Sub-Committee shall consist of three Members, shall superintend all the Publications of the Association, and report their proceedings annually to the Committee.

VIII.—The Committee shall be empowered to fill up *pro tem.* all occasional vacancies that may be caused by the death or resignation of the President, or of any other Member of the Committee.

IX.—In all nominations made by the Committee, it shall be allowable for any Member thereof to demand a ballot.

X.—No person who is not a Subscribing Member shall be eligible for election into any office in the Association, nor to be a Member of the Committee.

#### *Of Subscriptions.*

XI.—All Subscribing Members shall pay £1 annually to one of the General Secretaries, or to those Local Secretaries whose assistance may be specially requested by either of the General Secretaries, who shall transmit the money to the Treasurer, or his Banker.

XII.—All Subscriptions shall be paid in advance, and become due on the 1st of January in each year.

XIII.—Members wishing to withdraw from the Association are required to give six months' notice to one of the General Secretaries, and to pay any Subscriptions which may be due from them to the Association.

XIV.—All the Subscribing Members shall have a right to receive, gratuitously, all the Publications of the Association which may be issued during the year to which their Subscriptions relate, together with a Ticket giving free admission to the Annual Meeting.

XV.—The Treasurer shall be required to forward, quarterly, to the

Chairman of the Committee and the General Secretaries, for their guidance, a statement of finance for the past quarter of a year.

XVI.—The accounts of the Treasurer shall be made up annually, to December 31st; and, as soon afterwards as may be convenient, audited by two Subscribing Members of the Association, to be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. A Balance-sheet of the said Accounts, certified by the Auditors, shall be printed and issued with the April Number of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

XVII.—All bills due from the Association shall be countersigned by one of the General Secretaries and the Chairman of the Committee, and forwarded to the Treasurer, who shall pay the same as soon as may be convenient.

XVIII.—The Funds of the Association shall be deposited in a Joint-Stock Bank, in the name of the Treasurer of the Association for the time being.

#### *Of the Meetings.*

XIX.—A Meeting of the Committee shall be held annually, for the purpose of nominating Officers, and framing Laws for the government of the Association.

XX.—The Annual Meeting shall be held in one of the principal towns of the Principality or its Marches, at which the elections, the appointment of the place of Meeting for the ensuing year, &c., shall take place. Due notice of this Meeting shall be given publicly by one of the General Secretaries.

XXI.—The Chairman of the Committee, with the concurrence of one of the Secretaries, shall have power to appoint a Special Meeting, when required; and for such Special Meeting, a notice of at least three weeks shall be given, by a circular letter addressed to each Member by one of the General Secretaries.

XXII.—At the Annual Meeting, the President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, shall take the chair, and in their absence the Committee shall appoint a Chairman; and the Chairman of the Annual, or any other General Meeting, shall have an independent as well as a casting vote.

XXIII.—A Report of the Proceedings for the whole year shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting.

XXIV.—At the Annual Meetings, Tickets shall be issued to Subscribing Members gratuitously; and to Corresponding Members and Strangers, admitting them to the Excursions, Exhibitions, and Meetings, at such rates as may be fixed by the Chairman of the Committee and one of the General Secretaries, as most suitable to the circumstances of the locality in which the Meeting is to be held.

XXV.—The superintendence of the arrangements for the Annual Meeting shall be under the sole direction of one of the General Secretaries, in conjunction with the Local Secretaries of the district, and a Local Committee to be approved by him.

XXVI.—The accounts of each Annual Meeting to be audited by

the Chairman of the Committee, and the balance of receipts and expenses on each occasion to be received or paid by the Treasurer of the Association.

XXVII.—Wherever it is practicable, the Local Secretaries shall cause Meetings to be held in their several districts, and shall encourage the formation of Museums.

*Of the Rules.*

XXVIII.—It shall be lawful for any Member to propose alterations in the Laws of the Association. Any such alteration must be notified to one of the General Secretaries at least one month previous to the Annual Meeting, and he shall lay it before the Committee. If approved of by the Committee, it shall be submitted for confirmation at the next Meeting.

XXIX.—The Committee shall be empowered to make such Bye-Laws as may from time to time appear to them expedient, subject to confirmation by the Members of the Association at the next General Meeting.

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*Obituary.*

THE Association has lost an old and valued friend, by the death of the Rev. William Henry Massey, M.A., Rector of St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, Chester. His father was the venerable incumbent of Eccleshall, near that city, where he brought up and educated eighteen out of the unusually numerous family of twenty-three children. The subject of this notice was the fourth son. Although he had always felt a great desire to enter into holy orders, yet, in consideration of his father's circumstances, he accepted a cadetship in the Company's service, and effectively discharged his duty as a soldier for ten years. His anxiety to take orders still continuing, he resigned his commission and returned to England; and, having graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, he was appointed to the curacy of Goostrey, in the county of Chester. He was afterwards presented to the rectory of St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, Chester, by the Marquis of Westminster, who was acquainted with the admirable manner in which he had administered his charge at Goostrey. He was subsequently appointed to a minor canonry in the Cathedral Church of Chester. He was also, for many years, Secretary to the Infant School Society, and to that for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts,—both of which societies are deeply indebted to him for his zealous and efficient services. While curate of Goostrey, he collected funds

for a church at Byley, which, though built of brick, is said to be a good one. He procured also the erection of two new churches in his own extensive parish, one at Saltney, the other at Upton; and was contemplating the establishing of a third in Handbridge, a populous and poor district, on the western side of the Dee. In addition to these onerous duties, he acted as honorary chaplain to the soldiers and militia in Chester Castle, and took an active part in procuring the Act respecting the schools for soldiers. His published works were, some Sermons, and a tract on Parochial Visitation; both of which, being out of print, deserve to be reprinted. He was the founder, and one of the principal supporters, of the Chester Archæological Society; in the publications of which society will be found some valuable and interesting articles from his pen. The very satisfactory restoration of St. Michael's was one of his good deeds. He rescued the beautiful chapter-house from a contemplated coat of whitewash; and having restored the interior of his own church, and uncovered the open timber roof in the north aisle,—was contemplating the further restoration of the chancel, when he was seized in the month of December with a low fever, which, supervening on a delicate and shattered constitution, released this good and worthy man from his labours of love and usefulness. The excitement felt in Chester during his last illness,—the affectionate respect shown by high and low at his funeral obsequies,—the universal regret expressed on this melancholy occasion, testify to the piety, benevolence, and goodness of William Henry Massey. Descended from the ancient family of Massey, latterly located at Coddington, in the county of Cheshire, he was born at Stanley Place, Chester, in 1808, and died January 5, 1856.

## Correspondence.

## LLANDANWG CHURCH, MERIONETHSHIRE.

*To the Editor of the Archæologia Cambrensis.*

SIR,—When I addressed you in No. IV. of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, Third Series, concerning the abandonment and desecration of Llandanwg Church, I was not at all aware that the subject had previously excited the attention of two eminent Welsh antiquaries, otherwise I should certainly have concerted measures with them before expressing my opinion. They have written so ably on the subject, that my communication must have appeared to them trivial in comparison with their own published observations. These I conceive to have been so admirably expressed, that, though they have already appeared in a Welsh local paper, the *North Wales Chronicle*, in 1853, yet I feel sure that members of our Association will be glad to have them placed permanently on record in the pages of our own Journal, and I therefore send them to you for this purpose:—

“PERRANZABULOE IN WALES.

*“To the Editor of the North Wales Chronicle.*

SIR,—Having frequently observed from the Harlech and Barmouth road an old church, conspicuously situated upon the sea-shore, the aperture in the roof of which appeared to increase from time to time, I availed myself lately of a leisure hour to visit that forlorn Christian temple.

Llandanwg is the parish church of Harlech, and lies about two miles to the south of the town, at the extreme end of the parish. Close by is the estuary of the river Artro, which divides the hundred of Ardudwy into two commots, and somewhere near which,—possibly between the two *meini hirion* still remaining,—was buried, in the sixth century, Elffin ap Gwyddno, the Mæcenas of Taliesin:—

‘Nepun bardd nas gwypo  
Mai Elffin ap Gwyddno  
Sydd yn naiar Artro.’—*Mabinogi*.

“The reason why so many old Welsh churches were built in unfrequented and not very accessible places is not very obvious. Some event connected with the life and labours of the patron saint may have given the spot a reputation. The Welsh proverb asserts that the nearer the Church the further from Paradise:—‘Nesa i’r Eglwys, pella o Baradwys,’—implying that persons living in the neighbourhood of the church often neglected their advantages, while others gave proof of devotion in proportion to the difficulties of attending public worship. Each visit to this church might indeed have been considered a pilgrimage and a penance by the more distant parishioners. In this case there was no well of healing virtue near to hallow the retirement.

It has been maintained by some,—with a view to account for the remoteness of the church from the dwelling-houses,—that a tract of land, once inhabited, has been inundated to the west of the church since its foundation,—a conjecture grafted upon the half fabulous inundation of Cantre-Gwaelod, in the fifth century. St. Tanwg lived in the following century; besides, the church, though dedicated to him, may have been founded long after he lived.

“A new church was built in the town of Harlech some twelve or fifteen years ago, up to which time Llandanwg had been used for public worship. On being superseded by the new church, it appears that an ill-directed effort was made to have the old one at least kept in repair for funeral services, like similar instances at Denio, Llangelynin, and other places. A few pounds would have secured it for centuries from decay; and though for so many years exposed, in its partially roofless state, to the unmitigated violence of the Atlantic, an insignificant outlay in slates and timber would even now avert its ruin, so durable is the heart of oak in its roof, every timber of which is still standing.

“The approach to it is by an antiquated circuitous road, leading to the ocean shore, on the verge of which stands this melancholy witness of neglect. The very vicinity seems to participate in its fate. Over some smooth stepping-stones you cross a brook meandering in its deep channel through the sandy plain,—you pass a window-broken, though not dilapidated, house, once the Tynllan probably of the place,—you look through the gates of a high walled, abandoned coal-yard,—you pass a ruined limekiln,—you cross the brook again by a small bridge, close by the Lych Gate,—you find the gate closed, but on the side next the sea, near a small breakwater, you climb the wall, and what a scene presents itself! The seagulls literally scolded, and timid long-billed curlews, with plaintive note, as they flew over me, seemed to deprecate my intrusion. Over the pointed arch of an iron-barred window which ages back had formed the narrow south door, these lines appeared conspicuous in their mockery:—

‘Anneddfawr gadarn noddfa—gôr breiniol,  
Ger bron Duw a’r dyrfa;  
Er dim na thyred yma.  
Y dyn ond a meddwl da.’<sup>1</sup>

“I walked in at a window, and stepped right into the reading-desk, which, with the neat pulpit of aged oak by its side, still defies decay. On the wall is a mural inscription over some fond relative whose tomb beneath is now a most illustrative heap of rubbish. The altar rails and the communion table are entire; the latter a slate slab of good proportions. It speaks well for the reverential honesty of

<sup>1</sup> A stronghold charter’d from on high,  
Where God may meet the throng;  
Beware, let no ill thoughts draw nigh  
This house of prayer and song.



the community, that no thrifty housewife had laid sacrilegious hands on it for a dairy table. Through a side window a vigorous briar was stretching its long arm far into the church, to take livery and seizin of the domain allotted to it. Some gifted limner, familiar with scenes of dilapidation and decay, might love to depict the desolation of this sanctuary! Not a stick or stone, in or out, as far as can be observed, has been removed. Every pew and bench is there. The gallery bends under the weight of the fallen roof, but is still accessible by the crushed staircase. The numerous principals of the roof, with their well turned semicircular arches, so characteristic of old Welsh churches, are strong and complete. They are stripped of the slates on the west end of the church, but the chancel roof is entire, and the coved ceiling (mwd) of oaken planks still overhangs the altar. It is decorated all over with numerous paintings, among which, on one side, is dark Satan grinning horribly, around his feet are dismal souls, while in defiant antagonism on the opposite side is St. Peter with his symbolic keys. The figures and colours are nearly as fresh as when, ages ago, they kindled the æsthetic admiration of simple worshippers. Who were they that worshipped here? Burgesses and warriors have resorted here from the garrison town, and that brave constable, Davydd ap Ifan, who gave an asylum to the heroine Margaret of Anjou, and her son the Prince of Wales, and who, when summoned to surrender, assured the English general that as he had defended a castle in France until the old women of Wales all talked of him, so he would defend Harlech until all the old women in France heard and spoke of it. Here Ellis Wyn, of Lasynys, paid his youthful devotions, and cherished those ideas which found expression in the incomparable *Bardd Cnog*, and which were developed and invigorated, perhaps, by those suggestive old paintings over the altar. Well might modern Welsh writers take a lesson from his forcible, concise and classic pen. He was a native of this parish, and successive families of Lasynys are buried here. In that deserted pulpit, too, he prayed and preached, for he was rector of this parish, with the adjacent one of Llanfair, for several years; he was buried inside the latter church. I entered the desecrated altar, where, perhaps, for twelve centuries, the holy mysteries of our religion have been celebrated. I stood in the pulpit whence Gospel tidings were preached in simple purity to simple minded people. I mounted the gallery, now open to the sky, and bethought me of the loud psalms of lusty choristers which had thence issued, blending, not without harmony, with the deep roll of the sea. The swell of ocean still resounds against the desolate walls, accompanied by the whistle of the sandpiper, and the hoarse notes of the gull.

"The walls are in good condition. The east window was at one time of large dimensions, occupying a great part of the gable, but mullions and traceries have long disappeared, the aperture is closed up, and a small square window substituted. Some of the side windows have freestone dressings; on the top of the belfry a shell may be seen lodged in a crevice by some storm.

"In wandering over the churchyard, I was struck by observing, under the east window, a large rough slab with this modest inscription,—‘I. PH., 1600.’ Some sympathizing muse had taken care that the grave of the bard should escape the heartless neglect which had consigned to ruin the sanctuary where he worshipped; for underneath the initials are the following lines in modern characters:—

‘Bardd dienllib,  
Digyffelib  
Fu Sion Phylip,—iesin ffelwr,  
Gwelu ango,  
Yw'r daearglo,  
Yma huno,—y mae henwr.’

"The Phylips of Ardudwy were a family endued above mediocrity with the gifts of song. John Phylip was the father of two bards, and the brother of two, not unknown to fame.—See Williams' *Eminent Welshmen*. Among many interesting tombstones I noticed two adjacent ones wherein were buried two brothers, who in the prime of life were drowned on the same day, not far from their place of rest. The circumstance is recorded in an Englyn on each tomb. On another tombstone a couple of Englynion describe the fate of an old sea-captain, who, like the pilot of Æneas, had safely weathered the tempests of ocean, and perished at last amid the eddies of Traethbach—

‘O nimium cœlo et pelago confise sereno,  
. . . . . Palinure, jacebis arenâ.’

"Inside the church-yard wall, the soil has accumulated by the drifting of sand, and the burials of ages, leaving the church in a hollow. On the south side, among old gravestones, is a tangled growth of stunted black thorn, beneath which busy rabbits are burrowing, where the ‘rude forefathers’ of the parish sleep. I felt how much more of a church lay here *under* the ground than above it, in the dust of successive generations of worshippers,—

‘Wedi llafurio’n dwyn y groes  
O oes i oes olynol,  
Mae'r seintiau marw o gylch y Llan  
Yn eglwys danddaearol.’—*Y Fflwyddyn Eglwysig*.

"The view from the church-yard is very fine. On the south-west the Atlantic sweeps uninterruptedly to the shores of Brazil. Before you are the Caernarvonshire hills from Penrhyndu to Moel Siabod. Behind you stretches the Meirionydd chain from Aberdyfi to Arenig, pierced a few miles east from this spot, by the conspicuous mountain passes of Bwlch Tyddiad and Drws Ardudwy. The former overlooks Cwmbychan and its lake; which, by the way, is inferior in romantic interest to those of Idwal and Dilyn. Its chief interest, to my eye, consists in its unsophisticated seclusion, and in the small dwelling-house which entertained Pennant, which sent a chief (comme-

morated in the air 'Ymadawiad Dai Llwyd') with Rhys ap Meredydd to Bosworth, and which, since A.D. 1100, has been inherited and occupied, in unbroken succession, from one of the fifteen tribes of Gwynedd, by the now reduced family of Lloyd. Another object of interest, not far from its banks, is the elevated farm of Gerddibluog, in the parish of Llanfair, which, in its dismal solitude, reared Archdeacon Prys, author of our metrical version of the Psalms, and one of the translators of the Bible into Welsh. It is said that his panelled oak bedstead is still to be seen there. This place, too, is still owned by a Prys, or Price, and has continued in the family for several centuries.

"The other pass, literally, 'Door of Ardudwy,' is second, in picturesque wildness, to none in Wales. Unknown, unvisited, unviolated by coach or car, it presents to the eye the same rugged aspect as when the indomitable Roman traversed its gorge, or the chivalrous Pembroke led his weary troops upon the slope-covering fortress.<sup>2</sup> Under this pass lies the farm of Maesygarneidd, which

"<sup>2</sup> *Ar-lech*, on a shelving rock or declivity. Not, I apprehend, from llech, llechu, a concealment, or asylum, as some will have it. Others say *Hardd-lech*; thus G. ap Ieuan Hen, A.D. 1480:—

'Hyrdllam drwg fo i Harddlech,  
Harddlech min hyrddwlych mor.'

*Fair rock on the verge of the spray-dashing sea.*

Arlech has analogy as well as propriety in its favour; thus *Ar-lechwedd*, (never *Harddlechwedd*,) *Ar-fôn*, *Argoed*, *Artro*, the two last lying close to *Arlech*, which is in the hundred of *Ardudwy*. On a lofty mount upon the opposite shore is its fellow-sentinel of *Crugaith*, the *Sestos* and *Abydos* of the estuaries between them, *Crug-aith* (furze covered mount, see O. Williams' *Dict.*) So, *Hir-aithog* hills, (Dr. O. Pugh,) and *Tommen eithen*, a synonym of *Crugaith*, in *Towyn*. Not, I presume, *Crug-aeth*, (mount of agony,) nor the *Agricola's* station of Dr. Jones, nor the poetic license of *Cri-certh*, (cry of imminent danger,) caused, to wit, by the inundation of *Cantre-Gwaelod*. The name is spelt in various and arbitrary forms, thus,—

'Anrhaith a Chriceiaith eich rhan,

A ddyly Dolwyddelan.'—*Deio ap Ieuan Ddu*, A.D. 1480.

By the way, it appears by the papers of last week, that some of the ruins of Denbigh Castle came one night thundering about the ears of the neighbours—and served them right, for making a public quarry of what an eye-witness, before its last siege, (Sir Edward Walker, A.D. 1645, see 'Iter Carolinum' in Parry's *Royal Visits*,) describes as 'one of the strongest and noblest-looking castles I ever saw,'—and for their toleration of the enormous Vandalism of a neighbouring proprietor, who, within existing memory, pulled down the noble portal for stones to build a garden-wall! But it is said that a neighbouring gentleman has succeeded in drawing the attention of Government to the few sad relics. Will no one do the same for *Harlech*—the most imposing of Edward's castles, next to *Caernarvon*, from its towering site, its picturesque vicinity, its elegant outline, and the incomparable views from its walls? The pilfering dilapidations of townsmen are evident here, particularly upon the unique chimney of the state apartments, whose slender outline presented the appearance of four hollow pillars united in one, the section forming a quatrefoil, with the quarters perforated for the flues. The elaborate materials of this elegant column have been appropriated to the base uses of a blacksmith's forge, and the chimney-corners of cottages.

"I would make bold to observe that the increasing encroachment of the sea

nursed Cromwell's brother-in-law, the regicide Colonel Jones, amidst a people eminent for their devotion to the Royal Martyr, many of whom suffered proscription and confiscation in his cause; among them was William Phylip, of the family before adverted to, who was cruelly persecuted for writing the King's elegy.

"I left this place of beauty and solemnity with feelings of admiration, mixed with unavailing regret that so interesting a monument of the past should have been abandoned to decay. The solemnity of the scene was not a little heightened by meeting a poor man with a small coffin under his arm, who had walked from Harlech to deposit, as is usual, amid solitude and gloom, the still-born with the bones of its fathers.

"March, 1853.

"J. E."

"PERRANZABULOE IN WALES.

"To the Editor of the North Wales Chronicle.

"SIR,—I have read with great interest the very correct description, by a correspondent in your last number, of Llandanwg Church and its romantic neighbourhood, and I regret that it did not fall to his lot, as it did to mine, to visit that locality some twenty years ago, before the desecration of the church. If, also, he had then extended his ramble a mile or two to the south, he would have met with an object of yet superior interest. I allude to the spot marked in the Ordnance maps as Gwern y Capel. So late as the year 1843, the foundations of a small ecclesiastical building at this place, with the inclosure to its surrounding cemetery, were clearly to be traced; indeed, if I recollect, the walls, or the *debris* of them, were in places three or four feet high. I regret to say that, since then, the stones have been carried away in such numbers, for draining the adjacent marshes, that it is difficult now to trace the form of the structure. It can scarcely be doubted that these foundations were the remains of a church of very early date. So long ago as the reign of Elizabeth, this place was called Gwern y Capel, but it is pretty certain that the chapel was not then used for divine service, nor is there any tradition as to the services of the Church having ever been celebrated within its walls. Its small size, with the absence of every record relating to it, lead me to believe that it may be truly called Perranzabuloe in Wales, and classed, with the Cornish Church, amongst the earliest of our Christian edifices.

"But, to return to Llandanwg. When first I visited that church, the building was in fair repair, and divine service regularly celebrated within it. The rood screen, of Late Perpendicular work, was then

upon Harlech Marsh bids fair to render the 'inundation of the Lowland Hundred' no longer a fable, but a sad reality. This is caused, principally, by the inattention of the proprietors to the sea-banks, particularly in their allowing people to pull up for fuel (as I have seen done from the highroad) the sea-rush, (*mor-hesg*), which is the appointed guardian of nature's ramparts, and the most efficient restorer of their breaches."

standing, but the loft above had disappeared. Traces of it may still be seen in the plaster above the yet remaining portions of the screen. To the north and south of the altar were two curious monuments, carved in oak, bearing inscriptions to the memory, and armorial quarterings, of two members of the house of Maesyneuadd. The first of these was to the memory of Maurice Wynne, of Moel-y-glo, second son of William Wynne, Esq., of the neighbouring house of Glyn, and founder of the Maesyneuadd branch of that family; the other, commemorated Robert Wynne, Esq., of Maesyneuadd, eldest son of Maurice. These monuments are now gone: one is in the hall at Corsygedol; the other, I am told, is in a neighbouring farm-house. I subjoin copies which, when I first visited the church, I made of the inscriptions upon them:—

“Hic jacet Mauriciu: Wynn Armiger qui obiit vicesimo quarto Augusti 1673.’

“Hic jacet Robertu: Wynn Armiger qui obiit decimo secundo die Octobris 1691.’

“While upon the antiquities of this neighbourhood, I may mention that the Prince had, in early times, ‘a hall’ at Ystymgwern, near Llanenddwyn. In a roll of sheriff’s accounts for the county of Merioneth, the heading to which is unfortunately obliterated, but which, from concurrent circumstances, may safely be pronounced to be of about the year 1307, is an item, of which I subjoin the following translation:—

“The same Sheriff renders his account for the pulling down of the Hall of our Lord the Prince, at Estingerne, and for rebuilding the same within the castle of Harlech, together with the making of the windows, louvres, buttery, pantry, newly constructed by task, by the command of the Justice.—ix<sup>li</sup> vi<sup>s</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>.’

“The roll contains another curious item:—‘The same Sheriff renders his account as to the expenses incurred relative to the venison of our Lord the Prince, the catching and carriage of it, as is shown by particulars delivered to the Chamberlain.—lxiii<sup>s</sup>. x<sup>d</sup>. farthing.’

“Your correspondent refers to the name of Ellis Wynne, author of *Bardd Cwsg*; I add a copy of the registry of his burial from the parish register of Llanfair:—‘Elizæus Wynne, Cler: nuper Rector dignissimus Ecclesiæ sepultus est 17<sup>mo</sup> die Julii, 1734.’

“I am, Sir, yours obediently,

“March 30, 1853.

“W.

“I am sure there is no one who more regrets the state of Llan-danwg Church than the present rector of the parish. It should be mentioned that the roof of this church, though agreeing in its general features with those of the small churches of North Wales, is probably the best within the county of Merioneth.”

## "PERRANZABULOE IN WALES.

"To the Editor of the North Wales Chronicle.

"SIR,—I feel gratified that my sketch of the neglected state of Llandanwg has drawn some interesting communications from your correspondent 'W.' If my eyesight did not deceive me, storms have, since I wrote, committed further havoc upon the roof of that venerable fabric; and the probability is that, before the end of this year, it will be a heap of ruins. What 'W.' says about the late period, when red deer ran wild in Wales, is corroborated by Leland, who performed his antiquarian journey about 1545. 'Caernarvonshire,' he says, 'about the shore, hath reasonable good corn, then, more upland be Eryri hills, and in them is very little corn, except oats in some places and a little barley; but, scantily rye, if there were, the deer would destroy it.' Sir J. Wynne, of Gwydr, draws a stirring picture of the desolation of the Vale of Conway during the wars of the Roses, when, he says, 'deer grazed in the church-yard at Llanrwst, and grass grew in the market-place.' This was about A.D. 1468, according to the well-known old Englyn, commemorative of Herbert Earl of Pembroke's incursion.

"That Sir W. Maurice, of Clennennau, one of the witnesses referred to, possessed considerable political influence, appears by an original letter, dated June 6, 1604, from fourteen burgesses of Harlech, styling themselves his 'assured loving ffrends and kinsmen,' offering a bribe of £100 for his services in obtaining the holding of the County and Quarter Sessions in that town.—(*Archæologia Cambrensis*, i. First Series, p. 254.) He thereupon makes a memorandum of fourteen various advantages which Harlech possessed, for instance,—

"'Item, the said Castle beinge, as yet, kepte in somme better reparacion, than any of his Majesty's castles in North Walles, by reason that the Justices of y<sup>e</sup> Assise, Sheriffe, and prenotarye, with their trayne, doe vse to lie and keepe their diet within the said Castle, &c.

"'Item, the Justices now, respecting ther own ease more than the good of the towne, and ease of the country, do most commonlie vse to keep their Sessions at Bala, being a very fylthie dyrtie town, without any lodgings fitt for Gentlemen to lie, &c.

"'Item, if the King's Majesty, or the Prince should happene, or have ocaatione to goe into that countrey, there is noe house or place in that countrey so fitte and soe well able to reteine them and ther trayne, as the said Castle.'

"There is also a bond from three of the same gentlemen for the payment of £50 to Lord Eure, Lord President of the Welsh Marches, conditional upon his procuring the same privilege for Harlech. This shows how the very fountains of honour and equity were corrupted in the Principality so late as 1620, far more indicative of the backwardness of civilization, and detrimental to the common weal, than the presence of the red deer on the plains of Eifionydd.

"The suit referred to, no doubt, formed part of those tyrannical exactions of the Earl of Leicester, which are denounced by Pennant, and for resisting which, eight gentlemen of the first families in Lleyrn were at one time imprisoned in the Tower of London. It was his interest, as ranger of Snowdon Forest or Common, to bring as much of the country as he could within its bounds. 'Mr. Dr. Ellis Price' was a fitting sportsman to hunt the red deer, and thereby to furnish evidence, *per fas aut nefas*, in aid of his patron's designs. He is well known as Doctor Goch, or the Red-haired, of Plas Iolyn, in Yspytty Ifan, near which is *Sarn* Doctor Goch, and where his name is traditionally associated with tyranny and oppression. He married, if my reading of a manuscript pedigree is correct, Eirlli, daughter of Sir Owen Pool, of Llandecccwyn. Perhaps the title *Sir*, was, in this case, only the style formerly accorded by courtesy to clergymen who had taken an university degree (*Domine*). Thus, he is called 'the son of *Sir* Robert ap Rhys, chaplain to Cardinal Wolsey, by the daughter of Rhys Lloyd, of Gydrhos.' What of the celibacy of the clergy in this case? From Plas Iolyn issued many of the most respectable families of the country. A square tower, with its cellar cut out of the rock, and three mutilated alabaster effigies in the parish church, alone remain to attest its former greatness.

"Dr. Ellis Price was the first named of the gentlemen, to whom Queen Elizabeth directed her commission for holding the royal *Eisteddfod* at Caerwys, A.D. 1567. He is therein styled 'our trustye and ryght wel beloved Ellice Price, Esquire, Doctor in Cyvill law, and one of our Counsail in our Marches of Wales.'

"There is an old current local tradition, that his daughter married the proprietor of the neighbouring house of Plasnewydd, now Glan Conway, who was slain by his own kinsman, upon which Dr. Ellis Price said, 'I have lost my son-in-law, and I must hang my nephew.' As he was four times sheriff for Denbighshire, it is possible that such an expression was truly ascribed to him. He was also seven times sheriff for Merionethshire, twice for Anglesey, and once for Caernarvonshire. He was also M.P. for Merionethshire from 1555 to 1563.

"Mr. Pennant, in describing his portrait at Bodysgallen, (which, by the date, 1605, must be a copy, unless he sat for it at an extreme old age,) gives him the following character:—'A creature of Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and devoted to all his bad designs. He was the greatest of our knaves in the period in which he lived, the most dreaded oppressor in his neighbourhood, and a true sycophant, for a common address of his letters to his patron was, "O lord in thee do I put my trust."'

"As I had mentioned Archdeacon Prys, I would venture just to suggest whether, in the account given of him in Williams' *Eminent Welshmen*, Llanddwywe, of which it is said he was appointed rector in 1580, should not be Llanddwyn, or *Dwynwen*, (Donwenna,) in Anglesey, of which place he was the last incumbent, and appointed prebend in 1580. See note to Rowlands' *Antiquitates Parochiales*,



in *Archæologia Cambrensis*, i. First Series, p. 135. The biographer referred to is generally so very accurate, that if there be an error, it must be owing to a misprint.—Yours obediently,

“J. E.”

Thus far the two writers who have so eloquently and agreeably treated of the antiquities of Llandanwg and its vicinity. I hope, by the time summer comes round, that the church will have been surveyed and delineated, and a subscription for its restoration (to which I will gladly contribute) set on foot, through the medium of our Association.—I remain, &c.,

AN ANTIQUARY.

Feb. 26, 1856.

### JACOBITE RELICS, DENBIGHSHIRE.

*To the Editor of the Archæologia Cambrensis.*

SIR,—In a note, at p. 175 of the third edition of *Brittannia Depicta*, we read:—“Near this town [Ruthin] at a place called Keven Coch, in the parish of Llanfair, lives the truly religious, ingenious, and learned Mr. Henry Price, no less a pattern of Charity and moral Virtues than a profound divine, wanting only the convenient principles of some persons to render his Fortunes equal to his Merit.” For the explanation of this comment on the merits and principles of Mr. Price, we turn to the church of the parish alluded to, and there we find the following inscription on a mural tablet affixed to the east end of the chancel:—

H. S. E.

Rev. Vir. Henr. Price, senectute quidem  
Si unquam invidenda spectabilis,  
Erga Deum Pietate,  
Erga cives morum integritate spectatissimus,  
In oppido Ruthin: Archidascali munus  
Quoad salvâ licuit conscientiâ  
Summa fide ac industriâ sustinuit.  
Cum vero novis non permittentibus legibus  
Provinciam hanc publicam obire diutius nequiverit  
Privatim, tamen, in Patriæ utilitatem et decus  
Eidem operi incubuit;  
Inque eo per multos annos delitescens sane  
Non ignotus consenuit.  
Eheu! non satis Patriæ vixerat.  
Animam Cœlo maturam tandem Deo reddidit  
Anno Ætatis LXXI.  
Hæc quicunque legis, Alumnus Ruthinensis  
Lugeas necesse est dum meminervis  
Cui debeo quod legis,  
Neque hunc, proh dolor, siccis mortuum respiciamus

Quem toties tui in commodum  
Madidis licet oculis aspexeris vivum.

Præceptori suo optimo  
Hoc marmor sacrum esse voluit

W. W. W.

Anno Salutis humanæ  
MDCCXLVIII.

There being no records of Ruthin School kept, we are indebted to this monument for the preservation of the fact of Mr. Price having resigned his post as head master, in preference to taking the oaths of allegiance to the Hanoverian family. His pupil, a member, and the head, of the Wynnstay family, erected the monument, not only as a testimony of his regard for his former preceptor, but of his adherence to the Stuarts, to whose cause he was so deeply compromised.

Within the short space of two years, another memorial of the same attachment, but in somewhat more ambiguous form, existed in the large room at an inn in Ruthin, known by the sign of the *Cross Foxes*. A large mantelpiece exhibited in two compartments figures of Faith and Charity, but so rudely executed, and disfigured by successive layers of paint, as not to be very easily recognized. Between these two compartments was a very large and highly ornamented shield of the royal arms, thus presenting in one view a Jacobite tableau of Faith, HOPE, and Charity. The inn was, and still is, the property of the house of Wynnstay, while the mantelpiece itself corresponded with the date of the monument in Llanfair Church, and was no doubt erected by the same worthy gentleman. In some late alterations, although laudable endeavours were made to preserve this relic, yet, from its composition of plaster, it fell to pieces. This Sir Watkin Wynn was the well known Jacobite; and, had the young Pretender turned westward on reaching Manchester, would in all probability have openly identified himself with the insurgents, and the result of the attempt might have been very different from that which did take place. Prince Charles Edward had, however, received many promises of assistance from North Wales, which were never carried out; and he used, as it is well known, to say,—“I will do as much for my Welsh friends as they have done for me;—I will drink their healths.”

That, however, Sir Watkin Wynn had rendered some services to the young Pretender, is a matter of history. He was one of the few that wrote to the Prince, when at Derby, to advance towards London; and, had the advice been adopted, in spite of all difficulties, there is reason to think the attempt would have been successful, as both many of the officers in the king's regiments were staunch Jacobites, and even among the wealthy merchants and aldermen of London were many, who would have joined the cause. We have, at least, in the monument in Llanfair Church, and lately in the mantelpiece of the *Cross Foxes* Inn, two memorials of this Jacobite baronet. Is it not probable that among the records at Wynnstay may exist many inte-

resting documents throwing light on his connection with the Stuart party?

Among the Jacobites of minor dignity may be reckoned the first Sir Robert Vaughan, who was at that time a young medical student in Chester. He and a fellow student, Mr. Lloyd, a native of Caerwys, and subsequently a distinguished member of the profession, ran away from Chester to join the Prince, who had then reached Manchester. They were, however, pursued, and captured, "dog-fashion, by the collar," as Mr. Lloyd used to say, by their careful friends, and were thus saved the honour of being hanged or shot as rebels. Mr. Lloyd subsequently, at Paris, lived much in the Prince's society, and received from his own hands a beautiful miniature of himself, now in the possession of his relation, Miss Lloyd, of Tyn yr Rhyl. Caerwys itself was surrounded by Jacobite squires, with the exception of the family of Bodryddan; and a noted hunt was forbidden in 1745, because the gentlemen in the preceding year, when assembled round the great tree in Caerwys, had given some marked expression of their views.

There is little doubt many interesting relics and stories of 1745 still exist in parts of North Wales, and might well be collected and committed to the pages of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

I remain, &c.,

E. L. B.

[We shall be particularly obliged for any anecdotes of the connection of Wales with the exiled royal family of Stuart.—ED. ARCH. CAMB.]

#### MS. OF LEWYS DWNN.

*To the Editor of the Archæologia Cambrensis.*

SIR,—I inclose an account of my newly-discovered MS. of Lewys Dwnn, which may prove interesting to members of the Cambrian Archæological Association.—I remain, &c.,

THOS. PHILLIPPS.

Middle Hill, August 10, 1855.

*Ex Bibl. Caroli Wynne, Arm., M.P.*

13719.—Lewys Dwnn's Genealogical Collections for Wales. Small 4to., *russia* on vellum & ch. s. xvi. & s. xvii.

This is a remarkable volume, written, part on vellum, part on paper, in a vile scrawling hand, which does no credit to the "chief herald of all Wales." The first fifteen leaves are vellum; thence as far as folio 202, are paper; after which follow sixteen leaves of vellum; then seven leaves paper; to which succeed three leaves of vellum, which end the book. Most of the pedigrees are written in circles, but some are in squares, others in the shape of trees, and others are given in narrative only. In some cases the sixteen ancestors are given in

the shape of a quadrant; in others, the father is in a circle in the centre, and his children, in circles, like planets, revolving round him, or like the knights of the Round Table. Sometimes the circles are in perpendicular, sometimes in horizontal columns. The book is full of these *nugæ heraldicæ*.

The first page begins, in red letters,—“Hyna henwab y pendefigion addabthont;” the next line is in black letters,—“gida William gwnkwerwr i ynys Brydain.” Then follows a succession of names, alternately in red and black, which appear to be names of those who came in with William the Conqueror. The seventh page of this list is signed apparently by Lewys Dwnn.

The first pedigree is that of St. Edward the Confessor, whom he traces up to Noah; then William the Conqueror, and the kings of England down to Elizabeth; after whom come the Welsh kings and princes, beginning with “Rodri Maur, towyssog holl Gymru;” then follow the rest to Gwaithvoed; after these, the pedigree of Adam Salsbri, Esgwier, Ednowain Bendew, Madog ap Ednowain, Jerworth ap Ririd, Gwrgaint ap Elidir, and Einion ap Owain. Here follow three pages, written upside down, containing “Prognostications” (in English), for the years 1594, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 1600, the first of which, as a curiosity, I transcribe:—

“The Relevasion [*sic*] of this yeeer doth ported [*sic*] new and straens hereses to a reis, and ther for it induseth subversions and chaunges in the trew religion unto ecclesiasticall persons, namli thos wich arr in the heichest estadt. It denowsyth unvreri, and most likli destrucksiön in sbiritual eledsiön asembl of prinsys and peers. Ther sall kraffty and sybtill entendments, librall sciensus, and honest studuens, bring lukre and gain. Yt siall by daengerus traveling, and letters interkepted, perhaps thinck the exqwrnsions of sowldiers preparatur ffor wars. Mor over traps siawl by layd by poyson to destroe a sertene nobl mann, or woman riwler, awlso certain anssiants sittis siall by thretnyd, and swm violens donne unto them. To conkliwd e say ther is ffor siewyd korwpsion, or scarciti of graen through excess of moisture.”

On the last page of these first vellum leaves are the names of the conquerors of Brecknock and Glamorgan, beginning with Sir Bernard Newmarch and Sir William de Londres, *alias* London, the first list (of Brecon) being taken from the “Lyfr Ed. Gams, esgwier, ai dowad;” and the second from the “Llyfr Sir Edw. Mansel, ai dowad.”

The first page of the paper portion is dated 1597, and begins—“O duw nad gamwedd. Y dyma Gopi o hen lyfr Morus Dakyne ap Pyrs Trefor, or Betws. Ac or gynn y lleidva honno pann,” &c. At fol. 31, the first pedigrees in circles begin, dated 1573, being Marchudd ap Kynan’s issue, and William the Conqueror’s, in parallel lines, until they meet in Henry VII., and Elizabeth, daughter of Edward IV., and then continue, through the Scotch line, to James I., and Henry, his son, Prince of Wales. At fol. 39, is the royal coat of France and England, quartering Scotland and Ireland, very neatly

tricked, and, therefore, I suspect, not done by Lewys Dwnn. At fol. 45 *b*, are the sixteen ancestors of Edward Langford, in the shape of a quadrant; and on fol. 46, the ancestors of Thomas Langford, branching like a tree, but on the right side only, in which each wife's ancestors are carried up. At fol. 49, is the first pedigree in which the father, in the centre circle, has all his children round him, each in a circle. At fol. 52, begin the pedigrees of Johns, Salsbry, Hanmer, Thomas, Stradling, Wogan, Vychan, Aubre, Williams, Gaius, Herbert, Mansel, Bulkely, Croft, Mostyn, Brereton, Wogan, Lewys, Cornwall, Perott, all dated 1604, or 5. Fol. 62, pedigree of Powys, 1596, &c. Fol. 70, are Herefordshire pedigrees, in narrative, part in red ink, part in black, and in rather better writing. Fol. 76, begin pedigrees of Gaermerddinsir and Maesyfed, signed "p. me, Lewys Dwnn, debyt herhocht at arms dros Gymru;" pedigrees of Sir Aberteivi, signed "p. me, Lewys Dwnn, 1588." Fol. 84 *b*, Jones of Abermarlais. Fol. 85 *b*, titles of officers of the Herald's College, signed "p. me, Lewys Dwnn, 1585." Fol. 86, pedigrees in circles commence again. Fol. 90, Plant brennin Boem, in a circle, in the centre of which is Llowarch Hen, and round him are twenty-seven persons. Fol. 100, pedigree of Herbert. Fol. 102, pedigree of Mansel (written Mansfelt), beginning with Robert Mansfelt, who married Burga verch Langton. Fol. 103, pedigrees of Gamage of Coity, and the Earl of Worcester. Fol. 110, pedigree of Brochwell Ysgithrog. Fol. 123, pedigree of Conwy of Bodryddan. Fol. 125, pedigree of Thomas Mostyn. Fol. 148, pedigree of Jestyn ap Gwrgan. Fol. 161 *b*, pedigree of Mortimer. Fol. 172, pedigree of Lord Stratford. Fol. 205, pedigrees of the conquerors of Brecknock, dated 1580. Fol. 205 *b*, pedigree of Sir William Coniers. Fol. 212 *b*, the signature of Lewys Dwnn. Fol. 213 *b*, pedigree of Thomas Carne. Fol. 214 *b*, pedigree of Gunter. Fol. 215 *b*, pedigree of Gruffith. Fol. 216, pedigree of Walbyff. Fol. 217, pedigrees of Baudrip and John Butler. Fol. 219 *b*, pedigree of Brutus. Fol. 224, Plant Urien Reged. Fol. 234, pedigree of Bouchier, Earl of Bath. The book ends with a short pedigree of Sir Gelli Meurig.

13720.—Welsh Genealogies, with British, Saxon, Norman, and English history. The book begins with An Alphabet of secret writing; then follows a letter from Hugh Griffith to Captain John Salusbury. The history begins A.D. 470; apparently some leaves are lost. After the history, are the pedigrees, and then this,—“Wm. Salbury yn dan on anerch ar Gruffydd Hiræthog an . . . ar erail oei Gelfyddyd;” after which, A Scheme of the figures of speech, explained in Welsh. Small thick 4to., ch. s. xvi., not paged.

## Archæological Notes and Queries.

*Note 17.*—At St. Tecla's Well, in the parish of Llandegla, Denbighshire, money is still thrown into the water by persons desirous of recovering from sickness, especially from fits. In former days persons of this kind used not only to do this, but they had to sleep under the altar-table in the church of Llandegla all night, holding a live cock in their arms. In the morning they would let the cock go, when the bird took off all the fits with him, and died soon after. An old man once told the present parish clerk of Llandegla (1855) that he remembered quite well seeing the birds staggering about from the effects of the fits thus transferred.

R. W.

*N. 18.*—In some parts of Denbighshire it is still believed that a shilling taken from the sacrament money, and made into a ring, will cure epilepsy, if constantly worn. A young man was seen not many years ago, in Wrexham Church, to fall down in an epileptic fit at a confirmation. He recovered, however, during the ceremony, and was brought in before the Bishop to be confirmed separately. He was *then* discovered to have one of these silver rings round his finger.

R. W.

*N. 19.*—At Tyn Twr, in Caernarvonshire, near the Penrhyn Slate Quarries, there used to be formerly a ghost. He haunted the old house, or rather the remains of the house, or twr, from which the place takes its name, and which was once the residence of the well known Archbishop Williams. A new tenant, on taking possession of this house, was sadly troubled with the nocturnal visits of the spiritual stranger; who, however, contrived to intimate to the man of flesh and blood, that if a certain sum of money were deposited in a particular place, he should be troubled no more. The man was fool enough to place the money there, and laid the ghost accordingly.

*N. 20.*—The "wise woman" of Caernarvon is still in repute in Anglesey; and, within the last ten years, some money stolen from a farm-house, near Llandegfan, was recovered by this woman. She was fetched from Caernarvon, came and examined the spot, and formally laid an interdict on the unknown robber, summoning him to the other world, within a years' delay, if the money were not restored within a fixed period. The money was flung, by night, through one of the windows, before that period expired.

H. L. J.

*N. 21.*—Between sixty and seventy years ago, a Welsh Bible was, in the church of Llanfihangel, above New Radnor, chained to a lectern, thus showing that the use of the Welsh language could not have been very long discontinued in that parish. It would be interesting to approximate to the dates of other similar usages along the border country.

*Query 37.*—Can any one tell me authoritatively the proper way to spell the name of the house in which I now live? Practically, every man spells it as is right in his own eyes, while every Welsh scholar I ask gives me a different interpretation of its origin. On tombs, in parish documents, &c., it is indifferently written *Lanrumney* and *Llanrumney*. I have ventured to substitute *rhymney* for *rumney*; but I am puzzled as to the first syllable. Persons, all of whom ought to know, say it should be, some *Lan*, some *Llan*, some *Glan*. Will some one tell me the exact difference between the three? The house stands very near the river Rhymney, whence doubtless the name. There is no church or tradition of any church. But, on the other hand, does *Llan* necessarily imply a church? Some of my authorities say, no; and I certainly know one or two places commonly so written, where there is not (and I imagine never was) any church. It is however possible that these cases may be corruptions of *Lan* or *Glan*.

EDWARD A. FREEMAN.

*Lan-, Llan-, or Glan-rhymney, Cardiff,*  
January 15, 1856.

*Q. 38.*—When did the practice of mapping private property commence in Great Britain?  
M. MOGGRIDGE.

### Miscellaneous Notices.

#### CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

We believe that the Annual Meeting for 1856, at Welshpool, will be held during the latter part of August; but official notice of the exact time will be given in the July Number of the Journal.

Three meetings of Members of the Cambrian Archæological Association are going to be held during the spring, for the purpose of carefully carrying on some local observations, viz.,—1. At Cerrig y Druidion, to explore the moors in that neighbourhood, with the view of determining lines of Roman roads leading from DEVA and VARÆ to Caer Gai, near Bala. 2. At Llantwit Major, Glamorganshire, for the purpose of accurately delineating, measuring, and copying, all the antiquarian remains of that place, including the inscribed stones, as well as the ecclesiastical and civil buildings. 3. At Llandeilo Fawr, for the purpose of accurately surveying and examining Carn Goch.

**LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL.**—The new reredos of the altar has been placed in its assigned position, under the choir-arch, opening into the Lady Chapel; and the old reredos has been carefully removed and re-erected under the windows of the north aisle of the nave. The works, generally, are going on satisfactorily.



**PENMON PRIORY CHURCH.**—The total cost of the repairs and restorations lately carried out in this church has amounted to £1,198 9s. 7½d., the whole raised by subscription, including £195 paid by public bodies, viz., *Trinity House*, £20; *Diocesan Church Building Society*, £80; *Incorporated Church Building Society*, £95. Sir Richard Williams Bulkeley contributed £150 in the first instance to the subscription, heading the list, and then came forward in the handsomest manner, when all the repairs were effected, and paid off the balance, £225 3s. 6d., making a total contribution of not less than £375 3s. 6d.,—an excellent example!

**RUTHIN CHURCH.**—We are happy to announce that some of the intended improvements have, since our last notice, been successfully carried out. Instead of the former openings, by courtesy called windows, five new three-light Decorated ones have been introduced, at the cost of F. R. West, Esq., of Ruthin Castle, M.P., after the designs of R. Kyrke Penson, Esq., who furnished also the drawings of the east window, which, together with the handsome painted glass by Wailes, has been presented by John Jesse, Esq., of Llanbedr Hall, near Ruthin. This window, which is of four lights, represents in small compartments some of the principal events in the history of our Lord, from which, however, the Crucifixion is omitted,—an omission somewhat remarkable. Two small figures of Moses and Aaron are inserted in the upper part of the tracery with bad effect. The red colour in some of the dresses has an orange tinge; but the general effect of the window is extremely good. The south windows have been glazed by Messrs. Powell & Sons, of Whitefriars, London, to whose energy and talent the public is deeply indebted for the stamped quarries, now so generally and effectively employed in church windows. Those at Ruthin have given such general satisfaction that, as we understand, other churches in the neighbourhood are likely to adopt them. To any clergyman, however, who wants a good east window for a small country church, and whose funds are not available for more expensive glass, we strongly recommend an inspection of the south *chancel* window in Ruthin Church. On the north side also, James Maurice, Esq., of Ruthin, has placed a small memorial of two lights, in each of which are large figures of St. John the Baptist and Noah, executed, also, by the Messrs. Powell, and which reflects great credit on them, the figures being well executed, and the colouring very good. We understand that the intentions of the committee for the restoration of this church are, as soon as funds are available, to remove the barbarous porch and balustrade which at present disfigure the south side. There are still the west windows to remove; but it is thought desirable to finish the south side first. The Bishop of Bangor has lately sent £50 towards these improvements and restorations.

M. N.

**LLANRHALADR CHURCH, DYFFRYN CLWYD.**—Thomas Hughes, Esq., of Ystrad, has lately erected, on the south side of this church, a painted window, of four lights, by Gibbs, in memory of his wife. The subjects are the acts of Christian mercy recorded in the 25th chapter

of St. Matthew. The grouping, drawing, and colouring of the figures are all most satisfactory, and reflect much credit on the artist. The fine Jesse window in the chancel of this church is much in want of repairs, which could be well executed for £50 or £60. What an admirable opportunity is here offered to any one wishing to erect a monument to the memory of a friend or relative. There is more than one hideous monumental excrescence in this church already. How much better to adopt such memorials, which would honour and ornament, instead of disfiguring, our parish churches. M. N.

LLANDEILO TAL-Y-BONT, GLAMORGAN.—A bad case of church desecration is now going on in this parish. A new church was built some time back, about a mile from the old one, without any sufficient necessity for it; and the latter, which, a few years ago, was in fair condition, is now suffered to go entirely to decay. The parishioners are willing to grant a rate for the repair and maintenance of the *old* church—but not of the new one; yet the ecclesiastical authorities do not interfere. What is the Archdeacon about, that he does not bring the case before the Bishop? What are the Churchwardens about, that they do not apply to the Archdeacon? The building is a two-aisled, Perpendicular one, standing just within the ancient road that crossed the river, defended by two mounds and a camp, still to be seen.

CAERNARVON CASTLE.—The new gates for this castle are now preparing. They will be *fac-similes* of the gate of Alnwick Castle, Northumberland, and have been designed by A. Salvin, Esq., F.S.A., the restorer of the Castle. The timber for them, which will require twelve months' seasoning, has cost £40.

SILVERWOOD CASTLE.—At Oystermouth, near Swansea, the remains of a stone building, supposed to be Silverwood Castle, (long since totally overwhelmed, together with the forest of that name, by the sea,) were lately laid bare during a period of unusually strong spring-tides. They were nearly opposite the road leading up to Oystermouth Castle.

VARÆ.—Some light may hereafter be thrown on the *vezata questio* of this Roman station, by an announcement furnished by an authority of unquestionable character, Miss Lloyd, of Rhyl. When the late Lord Mostyn's father was planting some trees at Pontryffydd House, the workmen uncovered divers specimens of Roman bricks, pottery, &c. A few years ago, the house was occupied by a lady, whose servants and children, digging among the trees, turned up some Roman earthenware. We are informed the place has lately changed hands, and is now the property of Miss Mesham. May we venture to express a hope that the new owner will allow some member of the Association to ascertain if further traces of Roman occupation still exist, which may help to identify the long lost Varæ. It is rather a remarkable circumstance that, in the same locality, is a spot, until of late years known by the name of Winllan, or the Vineyard. Can our archæological friends enlighten us on any similar traditions of vineyards in Wales?

## Reviews.

MISCELLANEA PALATINA. By GEORGE ORMEROD, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., of Tyldesley, and Sedbury Park; Author of the "History of Cheshire."

This well-printed volume consists of two portions, namely, *Memoirs of the Cheshire and Lancashire Families of Le Norreis or Norres, Aldford, Arderne, Banastre, Bredbury, Done, Fitzroger, Gernet, Lathom, Montalt, Ovreby, and Stokeport*; and of the *Cheshire Domesday Roll*, and of the *Justiciaries who presided in the Court of Chester during the period embraced in the remains of the roll*. Several carefully drawn pedigrees of the families above mentioned, and illustrations of brasses, arms, seals, &c., &c., are added to the work.

To the antiquary and genealogist, and more especially to those who are connected with the Palatinate, and to whom this work is more particularly addressed, Dr. Ormerod has presented a volume of no little interest and importance. Many errors have been corrected or explained; numerous clear and concise notes are to be found almost at the bottom of every page, while the references to the authorities quoted are given with an accuracy of detail which is not always to be found in publications of the present day. To the first part of the work are affixed some illustrative notices of the Norreys family, not devoid of interest to the general reader.

The notice of the remains of the Chester Roll we especially recommend to the careful perusal of those who may possess this volume, which, unfortunately, is not published. The existing remains—few indeed, but valuable—are here briefly mentioned. Although they embrace, comparatively speaking, a short interval, viz., from the time of Henry II. to 1289, yet there is no doubt that the Roll in its original and complete state was coeval with the first establishment of the Palatinate Court. It was lost previously to the year 1657, as appears from a letter of Dugdale to Vernon. Extracts, however, had been made by the heralds Flower and Glover, in their *Cheshire Visitation of 1560*, as well as by John Booth, of Twemlow, as cited by Sir Peter Leycester. Sir John Booth died, at the age of seventy-five, in 1659. Flower had extracted the report of a remarkable trial concerning the ownership of the advowson of Sandbach, which was claimed by Roger de Sandbach, the Abbot of Deulacres, and the Crown. Of the three contending parties, Sir Roger claimed the advowson in right of the manor of Sandbach;—the Abbot, in virtue of a grant of Randle III., recorded in the Chester Roll, and made between 1229 and 1232, while the Crown rested its claim as being at that time invested with the Palatine Earldom. The court decided in favour of Sir Roger. Although the Earl Ranulph III. was in this case a suitor, he appears to have presided in the court, as was also the case of Earl John. See No. XXII. and XXIII.

This extract made by Flower agrees very accurately with the extract

given in the *Coram Consilio Rolls*, Hilary Term, 38 Henry III.; and we may therefore infer the faithfulness of Flower's transcript from the *Doomsday Roll*.

Dr. Ormerod has also satisfactorily proved this record to have been in the form of a roll, not that of a book, as argued by Mr. Barker, on the authority of a document dated 15 Edw. I., which is subscribed, "*ista carta irrotulata est in Libro qui vocatur Doomesday.*" It is not impossible but that the copyist may have mistaken *rotlo* (*rotulo*) for *libro*; but, even without this supposition, it is clear from an agreement recorded in the red book of St. Werburg's, in 1289, two years after the instance brought forward by Mr. Barker, where we find,—"In magno *Rotulo* qui vocatur Doomesday irrotulata," that the record was in the form of a roll, and not that of a book, as the Black and Red Book of the Exchequer of Westminster. Other instances might be quoted of its name *Rotulus*, from collected fragments from the time of Richard I. to that of Edward I.

The term "*doomsday*," according to Sir Henry Ellis, in his *Dissertation on Doomsday Book*, has been applied to many records besides this and the *great general survey*. The contents of this roll have been misunderstood and misrepresented. What their real nature was is evident beyond all contradiction, from the abstracts Dr. Ormerod has here collected together from various sources, and which commence with the time of Ralph Le Mesnilwarin, Justiciary of the Court of Chester in the reign of Richard I., and end with that of Reginald de Grey, after his reappointment, 9 Edward I.

All the dates of the enrollments given are ascertained, except a few which Dr. Ormerod conjectures should be referred to the latter period of office of Badlesmere. No portions later than the justiciaryship of Grey have occurred.

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THE HISTORY OF FULK FITZ WARINE. Edited by THOMAS WRIGHT, Esq. (Warton Club.) Second Notice.

As we intimated we should do, we now give a second series of extracts from this curious history of feudal times, because there is much in it that concerns the Border History of Wales and England, and much that our readers may not otherwise have the opportunity of becoming acquainted with. We print the extracts just as we find them, subjoining a few queries, but leaving their further illustration to our readers' diligence.

"Le roy Johan fust à Wyncestre. Ataunt vynt la novele à ly qe Fouke avoit ocyés Morys le fitz Roger, e qu'il fust demorée ou Lewys le prince, q'aveit esposée Johane, sa suere; si devynt molt pensyf, e bone piece ne sona parole. Pus dit: 'Hay, seinte Marie! je su roy, Engleterre guye, duc su d'Angoye e de Normandye, e tote Yrland est en ma segnorie; e je ne pus trover ne aver en tot mou poer, pur quance je pus doner,

"King John was at Winchester. At length came news to him that Fulk had slain Moris Fitz Roger, and that he was dwelling with prince Lewis, who had married Joan, his sister; upon which he became very thoughtful, and for a good while uttered not a word. Then he said: 'Ha! St. Mary! I am king, rule England, am duke of Anjou and Normandy, and all Ireland is in my lordship; and I cannot find or have in all

nul qe me veit venger de le damage e hontage qe Fouke m'ad fet. Mès je ne lerroy qe je ne me vengeroy de le prince.' Si fist somoundre à Salobures tous ces countes e baronz e ces autres chevalers, qu'il seient à un certeyn jour à Salobures ou tot lur gent. E quant furentz venuz à Salobures, Lewys fust garny par ces amys qe le roy Johan ly movereit grant guere; e apela Fouke, si ly mostra tote le aventure. Fouke fist assembler al chastel Balaham en Pentlyn xxx. mil de bons homes; e Guenonwyn le fitz Yweyn vynt ou ces gentz, qe fortz e hardys furent. Fouke fust assez sage de guere, e conust bien tous les passages par ont le roy Johan covenant passer. E le passage fust mout escars, enclos de boys e marreis, issi qu'il ne poeit passer si noun le haut chemyn. E le passage est apelé le Gué Gymele. Fouke e Guenonwyn ou lur gentz vindrent al passage, e fyrent fouer, outre le haut chemyn, une fossé long, profound, e lée; e firent emplir la fossée d'ewe, issi qe nul poeit passer, quei pur le marreis, quei pur la fossé. E, outre la fossé, firent un palya trobien bataillée; e encore puet home vere la fossé.

"Ly roy Johan ou tot son host vynt al gué, e a quida passer seurement; e vyst de là chevalers armés plus qe dys mil, qe gardoient le passage. Fouke e ces compaignons furent passez le gué par un privé chemyn qu'il avoyent feit, e furent de cele part où le roy fust, e Guenonwyn e plusours autres chevalers ou eux. Le roy escria Fouke, e les chevalers le roy de totes partz assaillèrent Fouke; mès molt lur mesavynt, qu'il ne le poeynt avenyr si noun par my le frount sur la caucé. Fouke e ces compaignons se defendirent com lyons, e sovent furent demonteez e sovent remounteez; e plusours des chevalers le roy furent ocys; e Guenonwyn fust sovement naufrée par my le healme en la teste. Quant Fouke veit qu'il ne sa gent ne poeynt durer longement dehors lur fossé, si retournerent par lur privé chemyn, e defendyrent lur palya e la fossé; e des quarels e autres dartz launcerent e gitterent à les gentz le roy, e ocistrent grant gentz, e naufrèrent pueple à demesure. Ceste fere e dure medlé dura tanqe à seyr. Quant le roy vist tantz de ces gentz ocys e naufréz, tant fust dolent ne savoit qey fere; mès se retorna vers Salobures."—pp. 99—103.

my dominion, give what I will, anyone who will avenge me for the injury and shame that Fulk has done me. But I will not fail to avenge myself of the prince.' He caused to be summoned to Shrewsbury all his earls and barons and his other knights, that they should be on a certain day at Shrewsbury with all their people. And when they were come to Shrewsbury, Lewis was warned by his friends that king John would stir up great war against him; and he called Fulk, and showed him all the circumstances. Fulk caused to assemble at castle Balaham in Pentlyn thirty thousand good men; and Gwenwynwyn, the son of Owen, came with his men, who were strong and bold. Fulk was skillful enough in war, and knew well all the passes by which it behoved king John to pass. And the pass was very narrow, closed in by woods and marshes, so that he could pass only by the high way. And the pass is called the Ford of Gymele. Fulk and Gwenwynwyn and their people came to the pass, and caused a long, deep, and broad ditch to be dug across the highway; and they caused the ditch to be filled with water, so that, what for the ditch and the marsh, nobody could pass. And beyond the ditch they made a defence of pales very well fortified; and the ditch may still be seen.

"King John with all his army came to the ford, and thought to pass it safely; but they saw on the other side more than ten thousand knights in arms, who guarded the passage. Fulk and his companions had passed the ford by a secret road which they had made, and were on that side where the king was, and Gwenwynwyn and many other knights with them. The king cried Fulk, and the king's knights on all sides assailed Fulk; but it was much to their disadvantage, that they could not come at him except in front by the causeway. Fulk and his companions defended themselves like lions, and were often dismounted and often remounted; and many of the king's knights were slain; and Gwenwynwyn was sorely wounded in the head through the helm. When Fulk saw that he and his people could not long hold out on the outside of their ditch, they returned by their secret way, and defended their pales and the ditch, and hurled and threw quarrels and other darts on the king's people, and slew a great number, and wounded people beyond

measure. This fierce and hard battle lasted till evening. When the king saw so many of his people slain and wounded, he was so grieved that he knew not what to do; but he returned to Shrewsbury."

Is "Balaham" Bala? Do any of our readers know the exact position of this dyke across the road? Where is the ford of "Gymele"? Mr. Wright's note on this passage is as follows:—

"*Al chastel Balaham en Pentlyn.* It is called Balaha in p. 115, and was no doubt Bala, in Merionethshire, called by Powel, *sub annis* 1202-3, 'Bala in Penllyn.'

"*Le Gué Gymele.* The description is not sufficiently precise to make it easy to identify the locality here alluded to, though it is a question well worth investigation. The dyke spoken of was probably an ancient earthwork. The *haut chemyn*, which is spoken of as a causeway, was perhaps a Roman road, which seems to have run along the valley of the Dee."

Another extract points to a second spot that requires verification:—

"Ore lessum de Fouke e parloms de dame Mahaud de Caus. Quant le roy, qe tant l'avelt desirrée, savoit de verité q'ele fust esposée à sire Fouke, son enemy, par le consayl l'archevesqe Hubert, molt fist grant damage à le archevesqe e à la dame; qar il la voleit fere ravyr. E ele fuy à moster, e yleqe fust delivré de une fyle, e l'archevesqe la baptiza Hauwyse, qe pus fust dame de Wemme. Fouke e ces compaignonz vindrent une nuyetée à Caunterbures, e amenerent la dame de yleqe à Huggeforde, e demora une piece yleqe. Pus avynt qe la dame fust enceinte, e fust privément demorant à Albrebures. E le roy la fist espier, e ele s'en ala de yleqe privément à Salobures; e ileqe fust espîé, e ele fust si grosse qe ele de yleqe ne poeit travailler. E s'en fuy à la eglise Nostre-Dame à Salobures; e ileqe fust delivré de une file qe fust baptizé Johane, qe pus fust mariée à sire Henré de Penebrugge. Pus avoit Mahaud un fitz, qe fust née sur un montaigne de Gales, e fust baptizée Johan en une russele qe vyent de la fontaigne de puceles. La dame e l'enfant furent molt fiebles; qar l'enfant nasquist deus moys avaunt son terme. E quant l'enfant fust confermé de evesqe, yl fust apelée Fouke. La dame e l'enfant, qe febles erent, furent apportez de la montaigne à une graunge, qe fust celle à Carregenant."—pp. 112—114.

"Now let us leave Fulk and talk of dame Maude de Caus. When the king, who had so much lusted for her, knew of a truth that she was married to sir Fulk, his enemy, by the counsel of archbishop Hubert, he did great damage to the archbishop and to the lady; for he wanted to have her carried off by force. And she fled to the church, and was there delivered of a daughter, whom the archbishop baptized by the name of Hawise, and who was afterwards lady of Wem. Fulk and his companions came one night to Canterbury, and conducted the lady from thence to Hugford, and she remained awhile there. Then she became again with child, and was residing privately at Alberbury. And the king set spies upon her, and she went thence privately to Shrewsbury; and there she was followed by the spies, and she was too big to support the labour of removing from thence. And she took refuge in the church of Our Lady at Shrewsbury; and was there delivered of a daughter who was baptised Joan, who was afterwards married to sir Henry de Pembridge. Subsequently Maude had a son, who was born on a mountain in Wales, and was baptised John in a brook which comes from the Maidens' well. The lady and the child were very weak; for the child was born two months before its term. And when the child was confirmed by the bishop, it was named Fulk. The lady and the child, who were weak, were carried from the mountain to a grange, which was that at Carregenant."

Is this place "Carregynant"? or, is it Carreg Cennen? or, where is it?

